

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3611.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1897.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
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**ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS.**—The EXHIBITION of WORKS by the late LORD LEIGHTON, P.R.A., is NOW OPEN DAILY from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogues, 6d. Season Ticket, 5s.

**ROYAL SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.** 5A, Pall Mall East.—LAST TWO WEEKS of WINTER EXHIBITION. Open 10 to 5. Election of Associates, February 18.—For particulars apply to SAM'L J. HODSON, R.W.S., Secretary.

**THE LATE ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S.**  
There will be a LOAN EXHIBITION, at the END of JANUARY, at the Old Water-Colour Society, of the Works of the above Artist. Anybody willing to contribute Drawings is requested to communicate with A. D. FRIPP, Esq., M.S., 65, Harley-street, W. A.R.—Earlier Drawings are particularly desired.

**SOCIETY of AUTHORS (INCORPORATED).**  
President—MR. GEORGE MEREDITH.  
FIRST LIST.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Society will take place on WEDNESDAY, February 10, in the Theatre of the ROLBOEN RESTAURANT, at 7 for 7.30 P.M. The Chair will be taken by the Right Hon. Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, M.P. P.E.S. The following Members of the Society have accepted the post of Steward of the Dinner:—  
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Sir Edwin Arnold, K.C.I.E., &c.  
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The Rev. Canon Bell, D.D.  
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Mrs. Oscar Berenger.  
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The Rev. Prof. T. G. Bonney, F.R.S., &c.  
Oscar Browning.  
Lady Colin Campbell.  
The Very Rev. the Dean of Canterbury.  
Rosa Nouchette Carey.  
Egerton Castle, F.R.S.  
Miss Cholmondeley.  
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The Right Hon. the Earl of Desart.  
Sir George Douglas, Bart.  
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Anthony Hope Hawkins.  
Jerome K. Jerome.  
The Rev. Frederick Harry Jones.  
Mrs. Edward Kennard.  
Prof. E. Ray Lankester.  
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Florence Marryat.  
Justin McCarthy, M.P.  
Prof. J. M. D. Meiklejohn.  
The Rev. C. H. Middleton-Wake.  
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LITERATURE

*Forty-one Years in India: from Subaltern to Commander-in-Chief.* By Field-Marshal Lord Roberts of Kandahar, V.C., G.C.B. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.) (First Notice)

LORD ROBERTS forestalls and disarms criticism by expressing a hope in his modest preface that those who care to read a plain unvarnished tale of Indian life and adventure will bear in mind that the writer is a soldier and a man of action. But all due deductions being made for minor blemishes of style and language, he has written a book which will be read with eager interest if Englishmen still care for military exploits. The campaigns are related with a breadth and clearness which, in these days of lengthy despatches and cloudy writing, it is difficult to praise too highly. It would also be difficult to overstate the service which the author renders to the British nation by reminding it of the true temper and trustworthiness of one of its greatest weapons of security, the army. He makes his readers realize the worth of that portion which is recruited in India, and of the services it has rendered the empire. He brings home to them the Sepoy's patient endurance of privation and fatigue in the swamps of Burma and the snows of Afghanistan, and the steady valour displayed in many a hard-fought contest; and in our military annals there is no finer tale of devotion and courage than the story related by Lord Roberts of the native officer Subadar Ruttun Sing, who fell mortally wounded on the glacis at Delhi. The peculiar charm of the book is the modest and generous spirit which like a golden thread runs through it. The gallant author is more anxious to refresh the memory (to use Burke's phrase) of his old comrades at Delhi and Lucknow than to relate his own adventures, and he is liberal in the credit which he bestows on all who rendered him services when he commanded in the field. The perusal of the book enables the public to realize the chivalrous devotion of the soldier for "Bobs." All who have ever served under him have seen that he loves soldiers, that he respects them, and that he thinks each of them capable of being a hero. The story

of his life should be studied by every young soldier, for from it he will gather that the secret of Lord Roberts's success is to be found in the care and thoroughness with which he has mastered the details and fulfilled the duties of a profession for which he has a profound love.

On the 18th of April, 1852, Frederick Roberts, having been appointed to the Bengal Artillery, arrived at Calcutta and found the headquarters of his regiment at Dum-Dum. The pestilential climate of Bengal and want of society and active work speedily affected his spirits, and young Roberts came to the conclusion that he could never be happy in India. Promotion seemed hopeless: "I was a supernumerary Second Lieutenant, and nearly every officer in the list of the Bengal Artillery had served over fifteen years as a subaltern. This stagnation extended to every branch of the Indian Army." Roberts wrote to his father, a gallant officer who had commanded a brigade in the first Afghan war, begging him to use his influence to get him sent to Burma. He replied that he expected soon to get the command of the Peshawar Division, and that he would then like his son to join him. Four months after young Roberts got his marching orders, and great was his joy. "Indeed, the idea that I was about to proceed to that grand field of soldierly activity, the North-West Frontier, and there join my father almost reconciled me to the disappointment of losing my chance of field service in Burma." Early in August Roberts left Dum-Dum for Peshawar. The journey, which now can be done in three days by rail, occupied three months. As far as Benares he "travelled in a barge towed by a steamer—a performance which took the best part of a month to accomplish." From Benares to Meerut was done in a dak-gahary, a vehicle now as extinct as the dodo. At Meerut Roberts came across for the first time the far-famed Bengal Horse Artillery.

"It certainly was a splendid service; the men were the pick of those recruited by the East India Company, they were of magnificent physique, and their uniform was singularly handsome. The jacket was much the same as that now worn by the Royal Horse Artillery, but instead of the bushy they had a brass helmet covered in front with leopard skin, surmounted by a long red plume which drooped over the back like that of a French Cuirassier. This, with white buckskin breeches and long boots, completed a uniform which was one of the most picturesque and effective I have ever seen on a parade-ground."

At Meerut the metalled highway ended, and the remainder of the journey, about six hundred miles, was done in a palanquin. Early in November Roberts reached Peshawar. Born at Cawnpore and leaving India as an infant, he had enjoyed but little intercourse with his father, and they met almost as strangers.

"We did not, however, long remain so; his affectionate greeting soon put an end to any feeling of shyness on my part, and the genial and kindly spirit which enabled him to enter into and sympathize with the feelings and aspirations of men younger than himself rendered the year I spent with him at Peshawar one of the brightest and happiest of my early life."

The son bears testimony that from his father he learned much about Afghanistan and the best mode of dealing with its people, thus gaining information which

proved invaluable to him when, twenty-five years later, he found himself in command of an army in that country. From his arrival at Peshawar until the autumn of 1853, Roberts acted as aide-de-camp to his father, while at the same time he did duty with the artillery. In November he got the much coveted jacket, but his joy was somewhat lessened by the fact of the troop to which he was posted being stationed at Umballa. Life on the frontier has a charm for young men of the right stuff, and Roberts did not wish to quit Peshawar. A vacancy opportunely occurred in one of the troops of horse artillery at the station, and it was given to him. The troop to which he was posted

"was composed of a magnificent body of men, nearly all Irishmen, most of whom could have lifted me up with one hand. They were fine riders, and needed to be so, for the stud-horses used for Artillery purposes at that time were not the quiet, well-broken animals of the present day. I used to try my hand at riding them all in turn, and thus learnt to understand and appreciate the amount of nerve, patience, and skill necessary to the making of a good Horse Artillery 'driver,' with the additional advantage that I was brought into constant contact with the men. It also qualified me to ride in the officers' team for the regimental brake. The brake, it must be understood, was drawn by six horses, each ridden postilion fashion by an officer."

Fond as he was of regimental life, Roberts, like all ambitious young officers, was anxious to join one of the principal departments of the army, and great was his satisfaction when he was appointed to act as a deputy-assistant-quartermaster-general. With characteristic earnestness he threw himself into his new work, and quickly won the confidence of his chiefs. John Lawrence, a shrewd judge of character, met him in camp at Rawal Pindi, and after an inspection offered him an appointment in the Public Works Department. In the chief spending department of the State his ideas would have caused an Indian Finance Minister to sigh. He would have built splendid roads and constructed magnificent bridges, but the vulgar question of cost would not have entered into his calculation. Happily he refused the offer, for it meant forsaking soldiering, and towards the end of April, 1857, he was ordered to report on the capabilities of Cherat, a hill not far from Peshawar, as a sanatorium for European soldiers. Here he first met Nicholson, who was engaged in introducing peace and order in the Peshawar Valley:—

"Nicholson impressed me more profoundly than any man I had ever met before, or have ever met since. I have never seen any one like him. He was the beau-ideal of a soldier and a gentleman. His appearance was distinguished and commanding, with a sense of power about him which to my mind was the result of his having passed so much of his life amongst the wild and lawless tribesmen, with whom his authority was supreme. Intercourse with this man amongst men made me more eager than ever to remain on the frontier, and I was seized with ambition to follow in his footsteps."

But the young soldier was not destined to remain on the frontier. Soon after his return to Peshawar the Mutiny broke out. On May 12th he was summoned to record the decisions of the council of war at which Nicholson suggested the idea of

organizing a movable column to suppress the Mutiny wherever it might appear in the Punjab. The formation of the column was heartily approved by Sir John Lawrence, and carried into execution without delay. Brigadier Neville Chamberlain was appointed to command it, and he chose the future Field-Marshal for his staff officer. When Neville Chamberlain relinquished the command on proceeding to Delhi as Adjutant-General, Nicholson succeeded him, and as his staff officer Capt. Roberts had opportunities of observing closely his splendid soldierly qualities and the workings of his grand, but simple mind. "Nicholson was a born Commander," he writes, "and this was felt by every officer and man with the column before he had been amongst them many days." Capt. Roberts was at the fort of Philour when a message came from Sir Henry Barnard, who commanded at Delhi, begging that all artillery officers not doing regimental duty might be sent to Delhi, where their services were urgently required. Roberts at once felt that the message applied to him. Nicholson was loth to part with him, but he agreed that his first duty was to his regiment. At dawn next morning he left by mail-cart for Delhi. He proceeded to Umballa as fast as horses could carry him, but here a difficulty arose. He had to change mail-carts, but the seats in the fresh vehicle had been engaged some days in advance. But Roberts determined to get on "by hook or by crook," to use a classic expression from 'The Faery Queen.' He called on Douglas Forsyth, the Deputy-Commissioner, who said that he might have a seat in an extra cart that was leaving that night laden with small-arm ammunition. The offer was gladly accepted, and the journey resumed. On the evening of the 29th of June Roberts, after a narrow escape of falling into the enemy's hands, reached our piquets at Delhi. He was told that the Quartermaster-General was most anxious to keep him in his department, but a difficulty had arisen on account of the need of naming some one to help the Assistant-Adjutant-General of the Delhi Field Force, and Chamberlain had thought of him for the post:—

"I was waiting outside Sir Henry Barnard's tent, anxious to hear what decision had been come to, when two men rode up, both looking greatly fatigued and half starved; one of them being Stewart. He told me they had had a most adventurous ride; but before waiting to hear his story, I asked Norman to suggest Stewart for the new appointment—a case of one word for Stewart and two for myself, I am afraid, for I had set my heart on returning to the Quartermaster-General's department. And so it was settled, to our mutual satisfaction, Stewart becoming the D.A.A.G. of the Delhi Field Force, and I the D.A.Q.M.G. with the Artillery."

This hazardous ride was one of the most gallant feats performed during the Mutiny, and the account of it printed in the appendix should be read.

On the 30th of June the future winner of the Victoria Cross first found himself under fire, and in the hard-fought encounter on the 14th of July, while helping the artillery drivers to keep the horses quiet under an incessant fire, he suddenly felt

"a tremendous blow on my back which made me faint and sick, and I was afraid I should not

be able to remain on my horse. The powerless feeling, however, passed off, and I managed to stick on until I got back to camp. I had been hit close to the spine by a bullet, and the wound would probably have been fatal but for the fact that a leather pouch for caps, which I usually wore in front near my pistol, had somehow slipped round to the back; the bullet passed through this before entering my body, and was thus prevented from penetrating very deep."

The wound, though comparatively slight, kept him on the sick list for a fortnight, and for more than a month he could not mount a horse or put on a sword. He, however, recovered in time to serve in No. 2 Battery, which was constructed immediately in front of Ludlow Castle, five hundred yards from the Cashmere Bastion. Here he had a narrow escape, being knocked down by a round shot which came through an embrasure. On the morning of the assault, being no longer required with the breaching battery, he was ordered to return to staff duty, and accordingly joined the General at Ludlow Castle. Discouraging reports were received as to the progress of the assaulting columns, and Roberts was sent to find out how far they were true:—

"Just after starting on my errand, while riding through the Kashmir gate, I observed by the side of the road a doolie, without bearers, and with evidently a wounded man inside. I dismounted to see if I could be of any use to the occupant, when I found, to my grief and consternation, that it was John Nicholson, with death written on his face. He told me that the bearers had put the doolie down and gone off to plunder; that he was in great pain, and wished to be taken to the hospital. He was lying on his back, no wound was visible, and but for the pallor of his face, always colourless, there was no sign of the agony he must have been enduring. On my expressing a hope that he was not seriously wounded, he said: 'I am dying; there is no chance for me.' The sight of that great man lying helpless and on the point of death was almost more than I could bear. Other men had daily died around me, friends and comrades had been killed beside me, but I never felt as I felt then—to lose Nicholson seemed to me at that moment to lose everything."

On the morning of the 24th of September, whilst Nicholson's funeral was taking place, Roberts marched out of Delhi with the column that was dispatched to Cawnpore.

"It was a matter of regret to me that I was unable to pay a last tribute of respect to my loved and honoured friend and Commander by following his body to the grave, but I could not leave the column."

Six-and-thirty years after, the present writer stood at the gate of the old cemetery near the Cashmere Gate, not far from the breach through which Nicholson had led his soldiers. In the dusk of the evening he saw a figure go slowly up the path leading to Nicholson's grave. The man placed a few flowers on the tomb, and remained for some minutes gazing at it. Then with quick, active steps he returned. It was Lord Roberts, who had come to pay his last tribute to his loved and honoured friend and commander. The next day the Commander-in-Chief of India left Delhi for England.

Early on the morning of the 10th of October, 1857, the column reached Agra. As the local authorities said that the enemy were nowhere in the neighbourhood, the Brigadier

gave orders for the camp to be pitched as soon as the tents should arrive, and he considered (wrongly, as Lord Roberts frankly admits) there was no necessity for posting piquets until the evening. Roberts and Norman (now General Sir Henry Norman) with a few others got permission to breakfast in the fort. They had scarcely sat down when they were startled by the report of a gun, then another and another. Hurrying down the stairs, they jumped on their horses and galloped out of the fort and along the road in the direction of the firing. On reaching the scene of action a strange sight broke upon them. "Independent fights were going on all over the parade-ground. Here, a couple of Cavalry soldiers were charging each other. There, the game of bayonet *versus* sword was being carried on in real earnest." Roberts and Norman rode off in different directions to search for the Brigadier. While thus employed the former was stopped by a dismounted sowar,

"who danced about in front of me, waving his *pagri* before the eyes of my horse with one hand, and brandishing his sword with the other. I could not get the frightened animal near enough to use my sword, and my pistol (a Deane and Adams revolver), with which I tried to shoot my opponent, refused to go off, so I felt myself pretty well at his mercy, when, to my relief, I saw him fall, having been run through the body by a man of the 9th Lancers who had come to my rescue."

Gradually the enemy were beaten off, hotly pursued, and their camp captured. After a halt of three days the column continued its march, and reached Cawnpore on the 26th of October. Here we must leave for the present the story of Lord Roberts's adventures. Some of the most exciting and interesting pages remain to be noticed.

*The Gospel Book of Saint Margaret.* Being a Facsimile Reproduction of St. Margaret's Copy of the Gospels preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Edited by W. Forbes-Leith, S.J., F.S.A.Scot. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)

The preliminary investigation with a view to the canonization of St. Margaret may be seen in Theiner's 'Monumenta Vaticana.' According to the account written by her confessor, nearly eight hundred years ago, she "had a book of the Gospels beautifully adorned with gold and precious stones, and ornamented with the figures of the four evangelists painted and gilt." The author goes on to say that the book was accidentally dropped by the bearer as he was crossing a ford, and, after having been long sought for in vain, was at length discovered; but instead of being completely spoilt by the action of the water, it was taken out of the middle of the stream as free from damage as if the water had not touched it. Only in the outer leaves could a slight mark of damp be detected. The book was to her great joy restored to the queen, and the chronicler attributes its preservation to a miracle. The nineteenth century may be pardoned for preferring to assign its discovery and its state of preservation to natural causes, especially as it was admitted at the time that the outer leaves were not protected in the same way as the interior was. The writer's concluding words in the original



are: "Quare alii videant quid inde sentiant; ego propter Regine venerabilis dilectionem hoc signum a Domino fuisse opinor." But though many will demur to the miraculous part of the narrative, there is no possibility of denying the truth of the story, which is contemporaneous with the event itself, and is further confirmed by the present appearance of the book after an interval of nearly eight hundred years.

What became of the book during this long period no one knows, but that the identical Gospel book of St. Margaret is now in the Bodleian Library admits of no question. Its discovery was made known to the world by an article in the *Academy* of August 6th, 1887, by Mr. Falconer Madan, Lecturer on Mediæval Palæography at Oxford. It was removed from a parish library at Brent Ely, in Suffolk, and sold at Sotheby's, having been entered in the catalogue as "The Four Gospels, a manuscript on vellum of the fourteenth century, illuminated in gold and colours, from the Brent Ely Library." The book was bought for the Bodleian Library for 6*l.*, nobody having any suspicion of its real value. Of course, in the hands into which it came, it was easily detected, and only a few days elapsed before it was proclaimed to be the identical book of the Gospels of St. Margaret which had previously been lost and found.

There are three or four internal evidences of its ownership, two being of the sixteenth century, others of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. But of more importance than these is a poem of twenty-three lines in hexameter verse, which exists on a fly-leaf before the beginning of the text. Appearing to have been written at the end of the eleventh or beginning of the twelfth century, it describes the loss and subsequent discovery of the book very much as the story has been related. The verses may have been composed by Turgot, Bishop of St. Andrews, the queen's confessor, but were certainly not transcribed by him, for the scribe wrote the first three lines as prose before he discovered that they were in verse, and wrote the remaining twenty lines properly, with a capital letter at the beginning of each line.

The editor seems to us somewhat to overrate the importance of this document when he speaks of it as "a beautiful specimen of the style and ornamentation of the Canute period" (p. 7). He quotes Prof. Westwood also as saying, "The text of the MS. is written in a beautiful minuscule hand." Its chief value consists in its being the earliest extant specimen of a pre-Reformation Scottish service book; but the writing does not bear favourable comparison with either that of the Canterbury Missal or of the Missal of St. Augustine's Abbey, recently published by Mr. Martin Rule, and the Gospels have been carelessly transcribed, having about fifty mistakes of spelling, or omitting or supplying words.

It may be described generally as consisting of a selection from the Gospels of the Missals in use at that time, most of the pages being more or less illuminated with letters of gold and other colours. It is written on fine vellum, the letters on the leaf in many cases being faintly visible on the other side. On the verso of the leaf pre-

ceding each of the four Gospels is a picture of each evangelist respectively, and in the case of St. Matthew the outline of the picture is distinctly shown on the recto of the leaf, owing to the action of the water, but, strange to say, the colouring seems to have been hardly affected by it. The book begins with the first twenty-one verses of the Gospel of St. Matthew, prefaced by the words "Incipit euangelium secundum Mattheum" in vermilion (the first words of this, as well as of the other evangelists, being in large gold letters), and then proceeds to the first extract from the Sarum Gospel, beginning with "Sequentia Sancti Euangelii secundum Mattheum." But there is no other instance of a Gospel being prefaced by a "Sequentia," &c. The passages selected, with the exception of the first from each Gospel, which begins with the initial words of the Gospel, are all prefaced by the usual words, "In illo tempore." All the other Gospels, instead of having the words "Sequentia," &c., are prefaced simply by the words "Secundum Marcum," &c., in illuminated letters.

The account of the Passion is given at full length from all the four Gospels, headed in gold letters "Passio Domini nostri Jesu Christi secundum Mattheum," &c., and in St. Matthew's account we have the singular reading, "Vah, qui destruit templum dei et in tribus diebus illud reedificat?" with the same mark of interrogation which is always used for questions. This is the reading of the Codex Aureus in St. Matthew (though not that in St. Mark) as well as of other early MSS. of the Latin Gospels, and appears in the Westminster Missal lately published by the Henry Bradshaw Society. On the last page devoted to St. Matthew we have the singular mode of writing the words "Pramore," the & being made to do duty for the last letter of *Præ* and the first of *timore*. This is the only instance of the kind, though *et* in the middle or at the end of a word is frequently thus represented.

When we come to the passages selected from St. Mark, in the illuminated part of the first page we find in large gold letters "Initium Euangelium" for *Initium Euangelii*; and at the "Passio Domini Jesu Christi secundum Marcum," in spite of the usual commencement, "In illo tempore erat pascha et azyma," the superfluous word "autem" is inserted from the Vulgate, where liturgies usually omit it. Towards the end of the "Passio" here we have again the reading, "Vah, qui destruit templum Dei et in tribus diebus aedificat?" and this reading has not here the sanction of the Codex Aureus, but was once adopted in the original Douai version of the New Testament, although altered in subsequent editions.

In St. Luke again we have the same insertion of "autem" after "In illo tempore" in the "Passio." There is nothing else in the passages selected from St. Luke to notice, except that there are, perhaps, fewer mistakes of writing than in those of St. Mark.

When we come to St. John, the illuminated picture of the evangelist is added on one side of the vellum, with nothing on the other side. In the second Gospel we have the word "servet" written by mistake for *servat* in the form "serv&," and in the

next page the curious appearance of the word "aeternam," written "a&'nam," whilst in the very next line the word "aeterna" is written at full length. The mistakes of the scribe in the whole four evangelists amount to about fifty, the most important, perhaps, of all being the omission of the words, in a Gospel from St. Mark, "et Maria Jacobi minoris et Joseph mater," which, if they had been inserted, would have just filled one line of the manuscript, a mistake evidently of the kind of "homoeoteleuton." Amongst other mistakes there are two or three omissions of the illuminator to supply the capital letter at the beginning of a line.

The liturgical value of these extracts from the Gospels is, of course, absolutely nothing, yet as an interesting facsimile of an ancient document it will be welcome to many more than those who may be fortunate enough to possess one of the 110 copies to which the impression is limited. In the course of a few years it will probably fetch a considerable price.

It may, perhaps, be permissible to express regret at the editor having omitted the blank pages, fol. 1, 1*v.*, 2*v.*, 21, 30, 37*v.*, 38, and 38*v.*, which would have given a complete representation of the original book, with all the disfigurements of 800 years. We should then have been able to judge how far the pictures of the other evangelists had been represented on the back of the leaf, as that of St. Matthew has been.

We had hoped we should have been able to throw some light on the copy of the Gospels from which these excerpts were translated; but after comparing them with the corresponding portions of the Westminster Missal, with the Vulgate, and other published versions, and after making due allowance for what certainly are, or probably may be, mistakes of the scribe, we cannot find that this manuscript agrees with any known copy. The readings for the most part follow the Vulgate, but there are several important variations from that text. A remarkable one is the omission of the last clause of the thirty-fifth verse of the twenty-seventh chapter of St. Matthew, which appears as taken from the Vulgate in nearly every modern version, but which is undoubtedly a mere interpolation from the parallel passage in St. John's Gospel, and is absent from all the best Greek and most of the early Latin manuscripts. But perhaps the most remarkable omission is that of the name of the prophet Jeremy in the ninth verse of the same chapter, space being left for the insertion of the name. It looks as if the writer was aware of the mistaken reference, but was unwilling to substitute the name of Zechariah for that of the other prophet. It must have been a well-educated scribe who in the eleventh century could have detected the error in the reference.

Green Arras. By Laurence Housman.  
(Lane.)

THE circle of Mr. Housman's admirers widens slowly and steadily. And to them he owes a duty—for they expect much of him, and cry their expectations from the very housetops. Much, however, as they expect from him, he from his readers

expects much more. He expects them to appreciate and follow his erratic evolutions, to acquiesce in his startling conclusions, and, hardest of all, to assent to his somewhat capricious estimate of the value of words. Words are to Mr. Housman sometimes mere sensuous sound values—sometimes symbols deeply weighted, myth-laden—and often he uses them to express ideas. The unsympathetic reader stumbles blind and irritated among the wreckage of the dictionary, and only the sympathetic need hope for treasure, for to know which of the three values attaches to any word or words the reader must be intimately in key with the mood of the moment. Mr. Housman would seem to desire recognition in the character of a great master of words. Taking him in that character, and allotting to the public the part of Alice, Lewis Carroll's dialogue will be found to sketch accurately the relative positions:—

"'When I use a word,' Humpty Dumpty said, 'it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.' 'The question is,' said Alice, 'whether you can make one word mean so many different things.' 'The question is,' said Humpty Dumpty, 'which is to be master, that's all..... They've a temper some of them—particularly verbs, they're the proudest; adjectives you can do anything with, but not verbs—however, I can manage the whole lot of them! Impenetrability! That's what I say.'"

This, clearly, is what Mr. Housman says, and he, alas! is not always master; sometimes after one of his struggles with his native tongue the honours remain divided. Perhaps one of the less pleasant feelings inspired by a book which, after all, has in it much that is quite remarkable, is the feeling that much must have been dropped between the lines during the conflict between the author's sense of style and his contempt of sense.

When Mr. Housman writes, as he often does, a poem that transports us into the world of dreams, he seems to claim that the words should only just brush the senses with a surface of meanings, plausibly deep or shallow according to the reader's degree of lassitude. Thus 'The Stolen Mermaid' and 'The Water Ghosts' have phrases which almost seem, for the sake of the author's delight in mere quaint decorations, to have left concrete meaning behind them—or is this betrayal of sense by sound merely an interesting if hazardous experiment, an attempt to pull the reader, by the ear, into the mood required of him? Be this as it may, it is a method which will try even the sympathetic, and which to the unsympathetic is merely exasperating. We ourselves claim to be sympathetic. Mr. Housman has produced passages—sometimes whole poems—full of music subtle and rich, full of thought, always fine, and now and then deep and high.

The temptation of comparing Mr. Housman's work with the work of Rossetti may, for many a good year yet, be set aside. But one must remember—being forced to the remembrance by sterling qualities and strong defects—that here is work from a hand trained to express itself in two mediums, and borrowing qualities from the one for the other. Every poem or passage in which the author succeeds has the power of making us see a picture. The metaphor by which Anteus describes to his blind

mother the stars reflected on the sea is striking and beautiful, however out of place in a mythological setting:—

They look, and see my Father's palaces  
Shine in blue fathoms underneath the bay;  
There with long wands like pilgrims enter they  
And feast.

'The Gazing Faun' supplies a fine couplet, where the union of the author's two arts shows plainly:—

The playing of waters a coronal wound  
Melodic with ripples and tendrils of sound.

But quotation can only do injustice to a book full of mysterious charm, and possessed by a pervading atmosphere of beauty none the less real in that it sometimes evades analysis—a book of strange virtues and defects. It reflects, we hope with the same promise of ultimate performance, the qualities which in his other art have won recognition for its author—qualities, perhaps, pointing to final mastery, but meanwhile elusive and indocile, and only very reluctantly tending to put off their waywardness. Outwardly and visibly the book is triumphant in its own type of beauty. The illustrations are as unequal as the verse, Anteus being an insult to common as well as to æsthetic sense, and 'The Three Kings' a gem of true beauty. In fine, 'Green Arras,' with all its faults and shortcomings, is the work of a poet. We cannot yet place him among the great ones, but his genius and our justice alike forbid us to class him with the crowd of minor poets who sing nowadays in thin-voiced, many-throated, weariful chorus, and to whose metric ailments one longs to offer the old prescription: "Live on sixpence a day and earn it."

*A History of Dumfries and Galloway.* By Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P. "The County Histories of Scotland." (Blackwood & Sons.)

ALMOST, if not quite, the most original effort in history during the last twenty years was a twelfth century biographical study in which the value, picturesque and human, of charter evidence was illustrated with unmatched force. What is true on the high scale holds equally in the story of a parish or a shire, and the like standards of test apply in the criticism. Sir Herbert Maxwell's style is so direct, clear, and natural that with a stock of patience he could have produced a model county history; he has all the necessary sympathies—the pity is he has not the patience. Whoever writes South Scottish annals without laborious use of the Rotuli Scotiæ, the Exchequer Rolls, and the Great Seal Register essays a perilous adventure. History without charters is but writ in sand. Sir Herbert's easy chapters exemplify what can be done by leaving the chief printed records (except Mr. Bain's invaluable calendars) practically out of account. Although Dumfries is first on the title-page, the stress is on Galloway. Probably the publishers are answerable for coupling two irreconcilables with little except a boundary line in common. The author himself is responsible for a much heavier percentage of error than is excusable in one of a standard series so important. It is not merely that a vast body of necessary information is absent which ought to have been compactly summarized. It is too evident

that the omissions are explained by a harder word than "forgetfulness." For instance, it is stated that Kirkeudbright, the capital of Eastern Galloway, first became a royal burgh in 1455. It was a royal burgh under David II. After this one need not wonder that the charter stories of Sanquhar and Annan have no mention in spite of the light they cast on the influence of war and rebellion on burghal fortunes. The constitutional side has no charm for a writer who perpetually falls out of his line of march to pick up some Gaelic etymology—worth a pin's fee usually or less. A weighty problem of that sort he is apt to ignore. The odds are considerable that it will be news to him that Galloway as a bishopric contained three deaneries: the Desnes, the Farnes or Farinnes, and the Rhynns—all names in need of rational definition. The fondness for Gaelic speculation might have led to conclusions on Celticism in Galloway; on the clan system, can, caupes, sorryn, and fachalos; on "the office of Tochiadarroche in Niddisdale"; and on kindly tenancy. Such themes are unknown here, and when a rare piece of racial evidence comes up it passes unrecognized. Thus Amulliekyn, a seventeenth century surname, is misconstrued into Irish O'Mulligan, whereas it appears in Galloway as Ap Molegan in the Ragman Roll, and is of prime moment as a Welsh or Cymric name-form in the district in the thirteenth century. In the adaptation of Skene's 'Celtic Scotland' to Galloway the conclusions have not been submitted to adequate local test.

Most old canons change, but to tell the facts remains for historians. Here, unfortunately, inaccuracy is everywhere. Sulwath, not "Sulwe," is the typical form of the primitive Solway, which Sir Herbert has not discovered was a ford. "Yry, yry, Standard," was not an English war-cry in 1138; it was a taunt to Galwegians afterwards. "Flores' History" is a unique method of citing a Rolls series volume, and one that tells its own tale. Skene wrote 'Flores Hist.,' an abbreviation recognizable by the tyro as 'Flores Historiarum.' Sir Herbert, borrowing as his manner is, makes the reference ostensibly his own, and in the process corrects Skene by deforming the transformed "Flores" into a personal name! Two invasions of England in 1173 and 1174 are rolled into one. Gilbert of Galloway did not pay his 1,000*l.* indemnity. The presence of Alan, Constable of Scotland, at Runnymede is called "an example how strangely the allegiance of the Scottish magnates was divided." Sir Herbert has forgotten that the Scottish king himself actively sided with the barons, and that Magna Charta contained a clause for his benefit. Bardonan, said to have been in Galloway, was according to the Great Seal Register in (Dalton parish) Dumfriesshire. The Scottish hostages of Edward I. in 1297 did not die in Lochmaben Castle, which was not then a "terrible fortress": they died in Carlisle. Sir Herbert has not considered the contemporary statement that Edward took Lochmaben Castle in 1298. He has devoted some space to Edward's Scottish campaign of 1300, and says that Annandale was laid waste and Galloway spared. There appears to have



been no such devastation. Mr. Bain's calendar might have prevented the continued suggestion that the garrison of captured Carlaverock were hanged. Edward did not hang the constable; it is not likely he would hang any of the others. Sir Herbert is under the strange impression that the elaborate supplies for that invasion were of local production. That he possesses small acquaintance with the Wardrobe Accounts cited is seen from his silence about the fortification of Dumfries, and his failure to grasp the plan of the expedition, or observe the presence of an English fleet in Kirkcudbright Bay. Edward, he says, after the delivery of the Pope's bull to him in the last days of August, remained in Dumfries until the end of October. In fact, he was in Cumberland by September 2nd, army and all.

Independent generalizations scarcely exist in the book; the omissions are vital; wherever there is detail there is blunder. Palgrave would have yielded a valuable list of forfeitures of patriots by Edward I. The grant of so great a fief as Annandale to the De Bohun family is amongst the things about which one wonders how they could possibly have been left out. It curiously resulted in the concurrent running for about three quarters of a century of an English and a Scottish title, complicated by a Balliol grant to Percy, between whom and De Bohun there was litigation over the right.

Has Sir Herbert devoted ten minutes' investigation to the McKie, Murdoch, and McLurg legend about a hassock of land in Minnigaff granted by Bruce, "so 'tis said," and divided betwixt the three heroes of the long bow? Is it rash to suggest that, after Bruce's time, before the Murdochs in Cumloaden there were McKies, and that before McLurgs in Kirouchtie there were Herons? If these inferences from the Great Seal be facts, what becomes of the fair tradition of the widow's three archer-sons who mysteriously managed to acquire three separate surnames, without Christian prefixes? Such tales ought not to pass for ever as history, unsifted. Perhaps this one has as much verity as there is in Sir Herbert's date of 1570 for the New Wark of Dumfries, a building named in 1506, or in that of the battle of Annan on Christmas Eve, 1332, which actually took place on December 16th. Edward III. did not grant a manor to Sir Eustace Maxwell in 1335, he only promised one, and Sir Eustace went back to the Scottish faith soon afterwards. Sir Herbert's entire failure to catch the sense of the Balliol period is seen in his capital omission to observe and record that the effective movement to throw off the Balliol-English yoke in the south was native to Dumfriesshire, where William of Carruthers rose about 1335. Not less disastrous is the absence of references, even at second hand, to the great body of documents on the occupancy by the English of their chief castle of Lochmaben, and their minor forts in Dumfriesshire and Galloway. When Sir Herbert finds time to glance at the Rotuli Scotie he will find some really interesting things there.

Sir James Lindsay could not have been murdered in June, 1356; at any rate, he was alive, as was his murderer, in the autumn of 1357. Regarding the Stewartry

of Kirkcudbright, the distinctive title of Galloway on this side Cree, it is really amusing to see that Sir Herbert has yet to discover that, coeval if not far older, there was a Stewartry of Annandale as well, which lived on until the present century. We are by no means satisfied with Sir Herbert's account of the Gallovidian Stewartry, dating it categorically from 1372. It certainly was called a bailiary in 1426 and a constabulary in 1429, although the baillie of 1426 was steward in 1429. The murder of the Tutor of Bomby does not rest on Pitcottie's authority: Buchanan mentions it. The story of the battle of Kirtle in 1484 loses immensely because the narrator knows nothing of the charters behind, which so dramatically illumine the last stand of the Douglasses. In 1488 the battle of Sauchie is unrecorded, although the long spears and wild shout of the Dumfriesshire men determined the fate of James III. Relative to the clan fight of Maxwell and Johnstone in 1593, Sir Herbert has a startling ascription, citing the 'Lads of Wamphray' as "Scott's spirited ballad." He says no punishment followed on Lord Maxwell's burning of Dalffible. It was one of the two charges on which he was beheaded. The other was the murder of Sir James Johnstone in 1608, the last atrocity of a long feud. The late Mr. William McDowall—whose work on the burgh of Dumfries is one of the half dozen really first-class performances in local Scottish history, and whose labours Sir Herbert has often used with the scantest recognition—somehow overlooked the exact scene of that famous assassination, effected at a meeting ostensibly for a reconciliation. Sir William Fraser, writing after Mr. McDowall, has the same oversight. Sir Herbert—really copying, though professedly quoting original authority—of course follows. The fatal tryst was held on the slope of Auchnane, in Tinwald parish, a bold ridge, visible from the Caledonian Railway, six miles west of Lockerbie. The Murder Loch near by preserves, no doubt, a record of the crime.

The list of errors noted on a single perusal is yet far from ended, but Sir Herbert must be weary of correction. So are we. For anybody not primarily concerned to obtain authoritative historical information the book will be bright and readable, a not ineffective general survey of a long period of provincial history, with many biographical characterizations and stirring episodes vigorously written. Its utter inadequacy in knowledge of records, however, to say nothing of its besetting inexactness, unfits it from seriously ranking as a standard county history. The bibliography is useful, though far from complete. The old maps from Blaeu's atlas and the modern one by Bartholomew are most serviceable and excellent in their several kinds.

*The Life of Thomas Hutchinson.* By James K. Hosmer. (Boston, U.S., Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

THE last royal Governor of Massachusetts Bay was one of the great Americans of the old colonial days. His 'Diary and Letters,' of which the first volume appeared in 1883 and the last in 1886, revealed the man to the

world and heightened the respect entertained for his memory. His 'Life,' as now written by Mr. Hosmer, is not a mere compilation from the 'Diary.' The author has drawn upon the archives of Massachusetts for unpublished letters and details, and has used his material in a judicial spirit, which some of his countrymen will condemn as unpatriotic, but which entitles him to the esteem as a biographer and historian which the late Francis Parkman earned and received.

Hutchinson's education was begun at a grammar school in Boston, continued at Harvard University, and completed after he became M.A., when he set himself to the careful study of Latin and French. His bent was to historical writing, and he set himself in early life to collect books for that history of Massachusetts which constitutes one of his best titles to honour and remembrance. His father was a merchant, and he learned in his father's counting-house the details of business and the means whereby to make himself independent in fortune.

Having a turn for public life, he was elected by his fellow burgesses, in 1737, to represent them in the House of Assembly, and his first duty in that position was to draw up an address congratulating George II. on having returned from Germany in safety, despite the famous storm recorded by Lord Hervey. He inspired confidence in his financial capacity. A boundary dispute between Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire requiring settlement in England, he was deputed in 1740 to cross the ocean, and he returned home, after thirteen months' absence, as the successful advocate of his native colony. In 1749 he was Speaker of the House. The colony was then suffering from a paper currency. The sound sense and tact of Hutchinson were exercised to restore specie payments and prosperity. His zeal for the public service was rewarded with threats to burn down his house. When everything worked smoothly he was popular; till then, however, those who believed that the shortest cut to wealth was to issue paper money had opposed and reviled him. Mr. Hosmer justly remarks that "democracies never appear to so poor advantage as in the management of finances, and no more conspicuous instance in point can be cited than that of provincial New England throughout the first half of the eighteenth century." His statement might be illustrated and enforced by instances of a later date in American annals. He is not unmindful, indeed, of modern history when he remarks concerning the Writs of Assistance, against which Otis thundered, that "freedom, to be sure, was outraged when a customs officer invaded a man's house, his castle; but high tariffs cannot exist without outrages on freedom."

The passing of the Stamp Act was the measure which led to the independence of the United States. It was not to the taste of Hutchinson, yet he was unprepared or disinclined to oppose in an official capacity anything which had received legislative sanction. Mr. Hosmer is both full and candid in his comments. He points out that George Grenville was most conciliatory. The outlay for the American civil and military establishments had risen from

70,000l. to 350,000l. a year. He thought that America should contribute something. He stated the case to the agents for the chief colonies and expressed his readiness to adopt an alternative scheme. Mr. Hosmer points out that if some representation in Parliament had been allotted to America, no dispute about taxation would have occurred. Such a scheme had been suggested by Franklin; Otis had favoured it in New England; Adam Smith advocated it, and Grenville did not oppose it. Two men in America—Patrick Henry, of Virginia, and Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts—had set their hearts from the outset upon the severance of the colonies from the motherland, and their voices prevailed.

The position of Hutchinson was most trying. He objected alike to revolution and tyranny. Perhaps he saw too clearly that the question at issue had two sides. A letter written to Col. Williams on the 26th of April, 1765, reveals his character:—

"As for those men you talk of and wish for, they are only to be found in Plato's Commonwealth. We that fancy we are most like them, although we durst not pursue any measure which appears to us to be against the public good, yet we see many things through a false medium, and are balanced, though insensibly, by one prejudice and another. Perhaps the case is the same with some who are opposite to us in public affairs, who vote quite different from us, and are under insensible bias the other way. This consideration should tend to keep us from discontent and disturbance in our minds when measures are pursued contrary to what appears to us to be right. Possibly we may be mistaken."

In the summer of this same year Hutchinson's house at Milton was attacked by a mob, the furniture was destroyed, the manuscripts which he had been collecting for thirty years were scattered or destroyed, and he narrowly escaped with his life. His only offence was to doubt the wisdom of those who were openly preparing the way for rebellion and revolution. He was then Chief Justice; he afterwards became first deputy and next Governor of Massachusetts Bay. In May, 1774, he embarked for England, having been temporarily superseded by General Gage. The king desired to learn from his lips the story of Boston. He died in London on the 3rd of June, 1780, at a time when a mob ravaged the City and destroyed the dwelling and papers of a greater Chief Justice than the first historian and last royal Governor of New England.

Mr. Hosmer writes with a moderation which inspires confidence in his judgment. His references to the chief points in dispute are in very good taste. The policy of sending two regiments to keep the peace in Boston was entirely mistaken; but justice has been withheld from the soldiers, and he adds this tribute to the regiments concerned, which does as much credit to himself as to them:—

"Few organizations of the British army have a record more honourable. The 14th [now the Yorkshire Regiment] was with William III. in Flanders; it formed, too, one of the squares at Waterloo, breasting for hours the charge of the French Cuirassiers until it had nearly melted away. The 29th [now the Worcestershire Regiment] was with Marlborough at Ramilies; with Wellington in the Peninsula it bore a heavy part, as may be read in Napier, in wrestling

Spain from the grasp of Napoleon. A mistaken policy had put the regiments into a position where they deserved pity; to fight it out with the mob no doubt would have been far easier and pleasanter than to yield. For brave soldiers to forbear is harder than to charge, and one may be sure that, in the long history of those regiments, few experiences more trying came to pass than those of the Boston streets."

The particulars in this work which now appear for the first time complete the picture of the last royal Governor, who was not the least worthy of the natives of New England. Mr. Hosmer has executed his work so well that it is a model for his countrymen and deserves the careful study of our own.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Cursed by a Fortune.* By G. Manville Fenn. (White & Co.)

SINCE the days of the ill-starred Clarissa, few heroines have had to undergo a persecution so audacious as Kate Wilton, the heiress in Mr. Fenn's last novel. First urged by an impetuous uncle, a so-called "squire," and his wife to endow with her hand their oaf of a son, then rescued through her bedroom window by a persuasive middle-aged attorney, she is imprisoned by that eminent gentleman in his house in Bloomsbury, and finally nearly loses her life by the drugs administered to her for the basest of purposes. Fortunately the oaf, who undergoes a Cymon-like transformation of character through his attachment to another maiden, and a gallant young doctor, who is only deterred by Kate's wealth from declaring his virtuous passion, arrive in the nick of time for her rescue and the physical doubling-up of the limb of the law. The dialogue and characters are, for the most part, heartily vulgar, and of psychological interest there is little or none; but it will be imagined that in the author's practised hands there is no lack of incident, and the story runs unflaggingly from start to finish. We much prefer Mr. Fenn in his Christmas vein, but if he must attempt fiction for adults, this is not the worst of his enterprises.

*The Juggler and the Soul.* By Helen Mathers. (Skeffington & Son.)

"To be the little wife of a great man" was, in the opinion of Miss Mathers's heroine Ninga, "infinitely preferable to being the great, or say notorious, wife of a little one." It is sad that a young lady of such admirable sentiments should be tortured through her innocent affections by the fate which subjects her to the consequences of an unhappy scientific experiment. Mr. Sabine is a great surgical genius and discoverer, and has succeeded in reanimating the actually dead by transfusion of the blood of the living. It is to his care that Ninga is entrusted by her father, an absentee in India, and in his household she soon reigns over the hearts not only of its master, but of his two pupils, the buoyant, generous Arthur and his dark, saturnine comrade Jasper, a man of more years and strange experience of the magical systems of the East. When readers find, as they do almost at the outset, that the *savant* himself is the secret object of Ninga's attachment, but that his age and modesty prevent

his understanding her heart, they are prepared for a triangular complication that promises not too smooth a course for youthful passion. But the terrific surgical secret that Sabine shares with his one deaf-mute assistant constitutes an element in the case that removes it from all ordinary experience. Miss Mathers utilizes this unholy power in a startling, but not inconceivable manner in her story, to which we refer our readers not only for its blood-curdling qualities, but for the very womanly study of the Anglo-Indian maiden, whose final happiness will be found an actual relief.

*Dorothy Lucas.* By Edgar D. C. Bolland. (Digby, Long & Co.)

MR. BOLLAND's story belongs to a fast vanishing class of fiction, in which there is invariably a baronet, and he, as invariably, a betrayer of youth and innocence. In this case we prefer to substitute "ignorance" for "innocence," since we cannot admit that a young lady who lies to her parents, and whose instinct does not warn her against meeting a man of doubtful reputation at a restaurant, is possessed of the latter quality. In fact, we consider Dorothy a vain and vulgar little person, quite on a level with her parentage. The *jeune premier* of artistic temperament is another familiar type, as is the Dissenting minister with his regrettable lack of principle. Finally, there is the *deus ex machina*, John Wilson, who rescues the maiden in distress, and sets everybody right without apparent effort. From these elements the author has produced a not very well-written story, which the reader will feel might have been less readable had it also been less commonplace.

*The Gleaming Dawn.* By James Baker. (Chapman & Hall.)

A NOVEL dealing with the Hussite (Mr. Baker prefers Husite) wars in Bohemia is indeed a novelty. The author interests his readers deeply in Zizka, Prokop, Magister Payne, and other Bohemians who took prominent part in the national movement following the treacherous execution of John Hus at Constance, and readers of Count Lützow's recently published monograph on Bohemian history, noticed by us on September 19th, 1896, will recognize many familiar names both of people and places. A revival of interest in the history of the Hussites is appropriate. As Mr. Baker points out, the doctrines of Wyclif showed more vitality among the Hussites of Bohemia than among the Lollards of England. So in his excellent and interesting romance 'The Gleaming Dawn' the reader is introduced to a little body of Wyclifites in England and at Oxford, and soon accompanies them to Bohemia to fight against the Papists for faith and freedom. It will strike even the casual reader as extraordinary that this novel should show not only exciting scenes, but great accuracy of detail. The mere mention on p. 73 of the English Bible in Prague alone involves no little historical knowledge and research. The reference is quite exact and chronological. As a romance of the early part of the fifteenth century, Mr. Baker's novel deserves to rank high. He has a good story to tell, he writes well, and



there is no cessation of the reader's interest in the events narrated. The worst line of the book is the first, which is a marvel of cacophony—"Will the world ever wot aught of all the wild fury," &c. Otherwise the book is essentially good literature throughout.

*A Tale of the Thames.* By J. Ashby-Sterry. (Bliss, Sands & Co.)

It is pleasant in winter to read of the sunny days of July on the Thames and of the love-makings of two young couples, "illustrated," as the author expresses it, with lyrics of his own composition. The story and its incidents are cleverly designed as a setting to Mr. Ashby-Sterry's bright and graceful verses. One of his *dramatis personæ* well recalls Mortimer Collins's poems of the Thames, which are too seldom read to-day. 'A Tale of the Thames,' though short and slight, is eminently pleasant to read, and not a page of it is disappointing. Mr. W. Hatherell's drawings in black and white are good, and form an agreeable accompaniment to Mr. Ashby-Sterry's literature.

*A Mere Pug.* By Nemo. (Digby, Long & Co.)

It is possible to imagine the existence of persons who can enjoy a story narrated by a pug to a "delicate little terrier." The example of Ouida's 'Puck' does not suffice to justify an unsuccessful attempt of a somewhat similar description. The writer has a story to tell and there is some pathos in it; but in the case of 'A Mere Pug' the effort is hopeless from the start.

#### FAIRY TALES.

THERE is something pleasantly novel in *Eileen's Journey*, by Mr. E. A. Jelf (Murray), for, as the author writes, "it is a magic journey, in which she travels through the centuries as mortals travel through space." Her progression is, of course, backwards. The journey is "made in search of beauty and goodness," and "the thread of a single fairy tale—with a single governing idea—is woven through the whole." The thread is, however, very thin, for, though Eileen is "personally conducted" by Queen Titania in a fairy chariot borne by eaglets to a magic train which carries her into the past, there is no fairy tale at all. We grieve to say, too, that Mr. Jelf has had to go back all but forty years to find any "scene" of sufficient beauty or goodness to justify his heroine's leaving the train to see it. She then alights at Station A.D. 1857, and witnesses the siege and relief of Lucknow, which are well described. Of course, to see many of the striking events of history completely, weeks, months, and sometimes years, were required, and while Eileen was at Lucknow time went on; but at last she returned to Station 1857, and once more sped backward in the century till she reached Station 1845, when she alighted in the frigid zone on the deck of the Erebus to be present at the death of Sir John Franklin. To make the balance true, she visited the torrid zone at the moment when Livingstone was in the clutch of the lion. After this she was at the Duchess of Richmond's ball before Quatre Bras, saw the beginning of the War of Independence and Shakespeare at the Globe, sailed with Columbus, and was present at the martyrdom of the Maid of Orleans and the first meeting of Dante and Beatrice; she even saw Tell shoot his arrow, though the legend is now discredited. Mr. Jelf's book will certainly be popular with children, and will stimulate their love of reading.

In *The Garden of Peace*, by Helen Milman (Mrs. Caldwell Crofton) (Lane), "Fortune brings in some boats that are not steered." Were it otherwise Mrs. Crofton's garden of peace might have caused her dire distress, for, as she relates, she and her husband went into the country to try to find a house, and found a garden which they loved and a sundial which sealed their fate. "It was only a glance," she writes, "but our hearts took root in a moment.....And the house? It was enough that it was trellised and covered with creepers; we gave it hardly a glance, for we looked into the garden, and beyond the garden down into the valley, and to the fir woods where a glint of pale larch green and rose-tints told us the news that Spring was coming, and that the earth was awakening from her sleep. We listened to the birds, and they gave us welcome."

"Nature," however, as we know on high authority, "never did betray the heart that loved her," and all went well. No lack of care was shown in choosing boxes in which birds of all kinds could dwell comfortably; and these were soon filled, even though their inmates were subjected daily to having their roofs lifted up. The book is full of interesting observations on the ways of birds and beasts, which would have been more valuable had we known the district in which they were made. The writing, though sometimes very good, is unequal.

We own to a preference for stories which, like *The Saga of the Sea Swallow*, by Miss (?) Maidie Dickson (Innes), begin with "Once upon a time." There is a pleasant sense that we are going to hear of "Old, forgotten, far-off things"; and though "Saga" is rather a big word to use, Miss Dickson by no means disappoints this expectation. Seven Vikings, with names often heard in story, are on their way back to Norway in a ship laden with booty, when, somewhere on the west coast of Britain, they run on a rock and spring a leak in their vessel. They make for an islet which is little more than a great black rock with a castle on it; but in this castle is, of course, a beautiful princess, and she can change herself at will into a sea swallow. Her story is interesting, and a number of well-known legends have contributed to its existence. In 'Greenfeather the Changeling' Miss Dickson is on ground with which she is more familiar. The scene is laid in a village within easy access of fairyland. Villagelife in Ireland is well described, and court life in fairyland is picturesque.

*Holiday Tasks* (Jarrold & Sons) has a business-like sound, but Miss M. H. Debenham's title is misleading. The holiday folk are a chance group of health seekers met together on the shores of the Mediterranean, and the task which they set each other is "to make up a real good fairy tale and tell it." They all have wits, and they all succeed, and the result is a charming collection of wondrous tales, which is sure to be popular.

*The Garden of Time* (Jarrold & Sons), by Mrs. G. Davidson, is a kind of fairy tale. It is the chronicle of the adventures of little Daffodil, who sets out with her poodle Koko to pay a visit to Father Time. On the way she makes the acquaintance of Jack Frost, the Tombscratcher, the Sundog, the Man in the Moon, and other well-known characters, who say and do appropriate things like good puppets. Time's garden being reached, Daffodil "passes through the veil of memory into the vista of years," and then awakes, for lo! it was a dream. Children have strange tastes and some may like this strange story, which is adorned with many weird pictures.

#### AFRICAN PHILOLOGY.

THE S.P.C.K. send a book of easy reading lessons (*Masomo Mepesi*) in Swahili, beginning with short sentences and gradually progressing to connected stories. From the same publishers comes a Swahili version (abbreviated and adapted) of 'Some Chief Truths of Religion,' by the Rev. E. L. Cutts, under the

title *Mambo mangine mangine makini ya dini*. Both these little books are printed at the Universities' Mission Press, Zanzibar, and should be found very useful in the schools connected with that mission.

We have also received from the S.P.C.K. *Kafa ka Malen ka Atra Temne*, a book of hymns in Temne, compiled by J. Manka and the Rev. J. A. Alley, who are the authors or translators of a considerable number of the hymns. The Temne language is largely spoken in the "Hinterland" of Sierra Leone, and is the one most needed by C.M.S. missionaries working there. Cust, following F. Müller, places it (along with Bullom, Mende, Susu, Mandingo, Wolof, and others) in the northern section of the Atlantic sub-group of his Negro group. This group must be looked on as merely a provisional one for the reception of languages whose relations to one another and to other groups have yet to be determined. Bleek and Lepsius were inclined to think that the "Negro" languages would ultimately be found to possess Bantu affinities. The principal authority for this language is the German missionary Schlenker (died 1880), who published a Temne grammar and dictionary, and a 'Collection of Temne Fables, Traditions, and Proverbs' (Triebner), and translated the greater part of the Bible into Temne.

The Cambridge University Press has issued a handsome quarto—*Specimens of Hausa Literature*, by Charles Henry Robinson, of Trinity College, Student of the Hausa Association. This book is the outcome of a movement on the part of the University which will be warmly welcomed by all students of language, and will, we hope, in time embrace other African language-groups. The MSS. from which the "Specimens" are printed were collected in Africa by Mr. Robinson and his brother, the late Rev. J. A. Robinson. The text is printed in Roman characters, with a literal English translation on the opposite page, and followed (in this edition) by facsimiles of the originals written in the Arabic character. The Hausa language is believed to be spoken by fifteen millions of people, and is, moreover, the language of trade throughout the Central Soudan, i.e., the region surrounding Lake Tchad. Perhaps Mr. Robinson's estimate of its importance and interest is excessive; he thinks it is one of the four languages which will ultimately dominate the continent of Africa, the others being English, Swahili, and Arabic; but something must be allowed for the feeling of proprietorship acquired by the scholar who explores a little-known subject. We could name individuals who would probably make similar claims on behalf of Fiole, Mang'anja, or any tongue of which they have made a dictionary. Hausa has incorporated a large number of Arabic words, and, apart from these, shows certain Semitic affinities. Mr. Robinson, however, thinks that it should rather be classed with the Hamitic group, though avowing that he does not know enough of either Coptic or Berber to make a satisfactory comparison with those languages. He does not mention the classification of F. Müller, who places it among the "Negro" tongues. Its position can hardly be determined without further study, to which end the publication of these specimens and of the grammar and dictionary promised shortly should be of great assistance. They consist of six poems of a gnomic and theological character, and an historical extract translated from the Arabic. Some parts of the poems are rhymed, others seem to follow no recognizable arrangement of endings. The religion depicted is of the fanatical type exemplified in the Soudan dervishes and the Emir Danfodio, the prophet of the Niger. A great part of Poem F is devoted to the life after death, and the torments allotted to unbelievers and evil-doers (for the poet's morality is of an exceedingly practical character, and among those whom he denounces are the "whisperers of evil," the "brokers who have made unjust profits," and

"they who regard stealing as lawful") are described in exceedingly drastic language. The author of this and the preceding piece is one Sheikh Othman of Sokoto, who died in 1809, and appears to have been the apostle of Islam among the Hausas. A few of his lines will serve as a specimen of the general tone of the poems in their less ferocious mood:—

Leave off pride and evil-doing, and stealing earnest-money;  
count thy cowries full, leave off falsehood.  
The Mussulman who loves his brother shall share the abode  
of Mohammed, son of Amina.  
Pay attention and listen to my words, O Mussulmans; that  
which has been said is true.  
If then you refuse to repent (or) even to listen, when you  
have to rise (and leave this world), there will be  
no continuance for any one.  
If the King of the Mussulmans goes to Mecca, we must pray  
and make ready our goods (to go with him).  
Our belief is in us in the place of riches; we cleanse our  
hearts, we repent well.  
We pray that our Lord may give us power that we may rise  
up among all the followers of Abd-el-Kadr.

#### AMERICAN FICTION.

*The Story of Aaron.* By Joel Chandler Harris. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)—"The story of how Buster John, Sweetest Susan, and Drusilla found their way into Mr. Thimblefinger's queer country has," says the author of 'Uncle Remus,' "been set forth," but this is the story of Aaron, who was foreman of the field hands on their father's plantation in Middle Georgia. What was more important still, he was acquainted with the language of birds and beasts, and with other mightier secrets. "If you want to learn this language," said Mr. Rabbit, "go to Aaron, Son of Ben Ali, take him by his left hand, bend the thumb back, and with your right forefinger make a cross mark on it. Should Aaron pay no attention to it, repeat the sign. The third time he will know it." At that time the children's minds were too full of other things to care about Aaron; but after a while they remembered what Mr. Rabbit had said, and sought Aaron, and the result is this book. But what magician ever yet yielded to the first attempt to win his secrets from him? As North-Country children say, "the third time is catchy time," and on the third trial Aaron yielded, and taught them how to converse with all the birds of the air and beasts of the field. Horses black and grey begin a story which is continued by the "track dog" and the white pig; but we are bound to say that we think the children must sometimes have found it a little tedious. The part we like best is that which tells of the rescue of the Teacher, and of his reappearance when "the army marches by." That is very good. The illustrations are good, too.

*Chumley's Post: a Story of the Pawnee Trail,* by Mr. William O. Stoddard (Nimmo), may be described as an American version of 'Robbery under Arms,' minus the literary flavour and go-ahead vigour of that spirited romance. Jerry M'Cord, alias Mortimer Herries, is its "Captain Starlight," for the astute black-fellow we have the wily Pawnee, and horses instead of oxen are the object of their joint depredations. It is a faithful enough presentment of the wild drama of the Western frontier, so far as its actors and incidents are concerned; the noble red man appears in his proper guise of a thief and an assassin, with none of the glamour that used formerly to be thrown around his proceedings; and the different types of pioneer settlers are evidently sketched from life. Yet the whole is lacking in the touch of genius with which "Rolf Boldrewood" handled these well-worn materials; the action drags, and the reader's attention is diverted by unnecessary details, which weary without convincing him. Chumley, who disguises the more aristocratic form of his patronymic as above, is a fine figure of a man, and is worthy of so plucky and winsome a mate as Jessie Munro; but the development of their love-affair is a desperately long business, and it requires the dogged persistence of the British schoolboy to travel to the conclusion thereof along the Pawnee trail.

A word of praise must be given to Mr. C. H. Stephens's capital illustrations.

*For Freedom's Sake.* By Arthur Paterson. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)—Mr. Paterson has, when he pleases, a stirring enough manner of telling an adventurous tale. 'For Freedom's Sake' is good, though the author may not be quite so much in vein as he has been at other times, and doubtless will be again. His present story is of the Abolitionist troubles in 1856 and the attitude assumed by some of the men of Kansas *versus* Missourians, who sought in too practical a way to enforce their views on the slave question. The scene is laid in a small frontier town called Santone. Saving the presence of Mr. Paterson's hero, it is old John Brown himself who is the hero of the hour. The doings of himself, his stalwart sons and followers, make a good background for Robert Holdenough, and are, indeed, the principal interest. Side issues and complications of various sorts set in at Santone. There is a moderate or peace party, who count their own safety and interest above the great principles involved in the skirmishes between the Missourians and the men of the North. The Southerners are many of them bullies and desperadoes working in the interest of their cotton lords. On the top of these undercurrents and confused elements arrives Robert Holdenough, of Boston, to take up land, but still more to uphold the cause of freedom. At this point the story opens. He identifies himself with John Brown's cause, which produces friction with peace-loving relatives of the girl of his heart. There are many ups and downs and some exciting episodes. Mr. Paterson by no means wallows in Americanisms. He only introduces what is necessary for the sake of local reality and vividness of impression.

*The Maker of Moons,* by Mr. Robert W. Chambers (Putnam's Sons), and the other stories contained in this volume, show the hand of a clever and practised writer, of more repute in the United States than in Europe. Mr. Chambers collects eight stories (the first of which supplies the title) abounding in adventure, excitement, tragedy, and horrors. For those who like such disturbing elements in combination these tales should have considerable attraction. There is hardly a restful page in the book. Nevertheless the writer's skill is undeniable. Everything in these stories is American, including humour, pathos, phraseology, and spelling. The author is no doubt a keen sportsman, and his experiences as a fisherman are among the best passages in the book. We will give no account of the plots of his eight short stories, beyond saying that they are never dull and always original and varied.

*The Daughter of Alouette.* By Mary A. Owen. (Methuen & Co.)—The North American Indians of the Missouri district and the white settlers in that inclement region have provided Miss Owen with material for a picturesque and dramatic treatment of the contrast between wild and civilized life existing almost side by side in the Far West. The story is full of incident and vivid colour; whether it is locally accurate or not cannot be pronounced by, nor need it signify to, the English reader.

Readers who knew their New York City in the days of Irish liberators and before the Tammany gang was broken up will understand what in *The Dragon Slayer*, by Mr. Roger Pocock (Chapman & Hall), may seem to others obscure. In any case it is a curious story; it is curiously expressed, and is, besides, a quaint mixture of actuality and allegory. If it please him, the reader may set the symbolism on one side and "go" for the story itself. Even then he will think it a somewhat strange production, full of surprising people and startling events. Brand, the hero, an honest journalist (this is not a contradiction in terms, as it appears to be), represents the spirit of truth and unselfishness

warring with the elements of a corrupt civilization and national dishonour manifested in the person of a great financier. Hilda, the heroine, stands for ideal humanity rescued from the perils of gigantic self-interest and unscrupulous scheming. The world's great frauds, started in high places by notable personages, are shown up, and their mysterious emissaries tracked out and unmasked by the powers of righteousness and the courage of a trio of social reformers.

#### LAW-BOOKS.

*Guide to the Mining Laws of the World.* By Oswald Walmesley, of Lincoln's Inn. (Eyre & Spottiswoode.)—The idea of this book is a good one, and not so quixotic as some might imagine, for note the author's statement at p. 15 that nearly every country, except our own, has a mining code of some sort or other. To give some idea of the codes of other countries, and of the codeless condition of our free and happy England, is the task which Mr. Walmesley has taken upon himself, and, as far as we can judge without a personal investigation of all the mines of the world, he has produced a very useful and instructive manual. The number of countries, divisions of countries, colonies, and other political units of which he treats is nearly one hundred, beginning very properly with his native country, and ending with Japan. The plan of the work, as described in the introduction, may be thus stated in a greatly abridged form: the author gives, first, in the case of each country or other division, the legislative features and history of the law; secondly, the classification of minerals; thirdly, the rights of search for mines; fourthly, the rules as to concessions; fifthly, the rules as to acquirement of easements of way and water, &c.; sixthly, the rules as to inspection; seventhly, the arrangements for relief in case of accidents; eighthly, the constitution of the mining authority where such authority exists; ninthly, general observations where required. To collect and digest such a mass of information must have been a work of great labour, and it may be hoped that the wide scope of the book will ensure its circulation and secure for the author his due reward. It is impossible, within our limited space, to give any general idea of so many-sided a subject, and we must be content to notice one or two interesting points here and there. A curious contrast is drawn between codeless England, "with her annual production of nearly 200,000,000 tons of coal, and huge quantities of other minerals," and little Lucca, with only one mine of silver lead and one of lignite, and an elaborate mining code of 115 articles! It may be noted, however, that while the author, quite correctly, calls Lucca "a small province within a state," it is not so very long since she lost her independence. A remarkable instance of excessive codification is afforded by the Argentine Republic, where, we are told, the premature efforts of the legislature have caused "much confusion and impediment to a proper development of the mines." It seems clear that China and Japan have a great mining future before them, and that both countries have laid down rules of law on the subject of minerals. The vast extent of China involves too great a variety of law and custom for collection and treatment in detail in the small work under notice, but Mr. Walmesley states the general principles, extracted from a native treatise with the marvellous title of 'Kin-Ting Ta-Tsing Hoy-tien Tze-ri.' The mineral wealth of Japan is said to be "something enormous," the gold, silver, copper, iron, and coal, in certain parts, appearing to be "almost inexhaustible," while manganese, sulphur, and petroleum are also produced. An excellent set of rules seems to have been laid down, but it is only of recent origin, for, in the words of Mr. Walmesley, the history of the written mining law of Japan may be said to date from



the "Restoration" in 1868. As regards our own benighted land, the book contains some very interesting particulars. Although (as mentioned before) there is no general code for the country, there are bodies of law or custom which regulate mining in particular parts, notably in the Forest of Dean, and the "Peak" and some other parts of Derbyshire. These are summarized in the "Great Britain" chapter of the work; it is impossible to go into such matters here, though the quaint terms "free miner," "gaveller," "meer," "freeing dish," "lot," "cope," "bar-master," &c., are enough to whet the curiosity even of a moderately inquisitive person. For these and other matters we must refer to the book itself, which, apart from its qualities as a law-book, must necessarily have attractions for all who are interested in any way in the progress of mining industry. The index is excellent.

*The Magistrate's Annual Practice for 1895.* By Charles Milner Atkinson. (Stevens & Sons.)

The great success of the Chancery 'Annual Practice' must naturally have suggested the publication of similar works dealing with other jurisdictions; and the duties and powers of a magistrate are so multifarious that Mr. Atkinson's book must be most acceptable, not only to that class, but also to the many solicitors and the sprinkling of barristers who practise before them. From the date of the preface, "October, 1895," and from the fact that the appendix includes portions of several Acts passed in 1895, we conclude that the work was prepared during the session of Parliament which terminated in that year, and that the words "last session of Parliament" in the preface apply to that of 1894-5. That being so, and many decisions of the courts during the year 1895 being cited, the practitioner will be fully armed for legal conflict according to recent judicial and legislative declarations of law. The author regrets that he has felt himself compelled, by considerations of space, to omit some important subjects, such as the Factory and Merchant Shipping Acts, and we share his feeling; but the book is so ponderous, even without them, that we can easily understand his having decided to exclude them. We may, perhaps, suggest that a second appendix, containing alphabetical tables of the penalties under those and some other Acts (e.g., the Shop Hours Act), with references to Act and section in each case, would assist the many who will use the book, and could not increase its bulk very much.

*A Manual of the Principles of Equity.* By John Indermaur. Third Edition. (Barber.)—This useful and compendious treatise, originally published in 1886, is too well known, now that it has fought its way to a third edition, to require a lengthy notice at our hands. The appearance of the second edition about four years ago constituted in itself a survival of the fittest which proved that Mr. Indermaur had found an appreciative audience. The present edition has its *raison d'être* principally in the necessity of incorporating in all works on equity the provisions of the Trustee Act, 1893, 56 & 57 Vict., c. 53. This enactment now constitutes the statute law as to trustees. Many of its sections are mere re-enactments of those of earlier Acts, which it so far repeals; but even where it exactly copies its predecessors it necessarily vitiates the references given in previous editions of the work; and it is probable that it may have introduced new rules here and there, notwithstanding that it is simply called "an Act to consolidate." On comparing Mr. Indermaur's statements of the various sections with the sections themselves in the Queen's printers' copy we find that the reproduction is generally very accurate, but one or two little slips may be pointed out. The statement of the section as to appointment of new trustees (p. 58) fails to include absence from the United Kingdom for more than twelve months as one of the circumstances which may justify such appoint-

ment. This is a rather serious omission; the Conveyancing and Law of Property Act, 1881, introduced the provision as to such absence for very good reasons, and a practical lawyer must know that the remedy thus provided may obviate grave inconvenience. At p. 59 the fact that the consent of co-trustees, &c., to the discharge of a trustee (when no new trustee is appointed) must be by deed is not noticed, though it is correctly stated that the declaration of a desire to be discharged, and the actual discharge itself, must be by deed. At p. 61 the statement, "A trustee has now full power to give proper receipts for all trust moneys and property of every description," is so general as to be scarcely intelligible; the section referred to (s. 20) deals with a "receipt in writing" of a trustee "for any money, securities, or other personal property or effects payable, transferable, or deliverable to him under any trust or power." In the same page s. 21 is rather loosely set forth, and it would have been better to give the actual words of the legislature. In extenuation of such defects as these, Mr. Indermaur may, perhaps, urge that no sensible and lawyerlike reader would rely on the mere statement of a section in a text-book without looking at the section itself. That is very true; but, then, why does Mr. Indermaur himself often refer to other works (e.g., Underhill, 'Law of Trusts and Trustees') instead of finding out and referring to the decisions or statutes on which the authors of those works rely? In the case of Roman law we are obliged very often to treat the views of individual authors as our *ultima ratio*, because we find little else to go upon; in English law, where every result is recorded, there is no excuse for quoting Mr. A. or Mr. B. without finding out whether he relies on authority or merely states his own opinion. But we have now "growled" enough. A carefully prepared *corrigenda* sheet might sweep away all defects. We may conscientiously recommend the work, even as it stands, both to students, for whom it is primarily intended, and to barristers and solicitors who desire to make a preliminary survey before sinking shafts in the rich ore-bearing strata of deep legal investigation.

#### DICTIONARIES.

FLÜGEL is a familiar name to most Englishmen who have taken up the study of German, and therefore we thank Messrs. Asher for having brought out in two handsome volumes a new *Dictionary of the English and German Languages*, founded on Flügel by Dr. I. Schmidt and Dr. G. Tanger. Of course, as in all dictionaries "made in Germany," the aim is rather to help the industrious Teuton to learn English than the less persevering Englishman to master German; but the German-English part of the work seems to us useful and well arranged, although a little more consideration might have been paid to the fact that many English still study German not with a view to trade, but to be able to read German literature. However, it is a decided advance upon Flügel, and the handsome pages and clear type reflect much credit on the publishers.

We have received several more parts (ten in all) of the *Nuovo Dizionario Italiano-Tedesco e Tedesco-Italiano* of Messrs. Rigutini and Bulle (Leipzig, Tauchnitz). The Italian-German portion of this lexicon is finished, and the German-Italian has begun. The former seems to be excellent so far as it goes. The particles especially, to which ordinary dictionaries pay too little attention, are well and clearly explained. The tenses of defective verbs are also plainly stated, and this, again, is a decided advantage. This is a dictionary much to be recommended.

The fifth edition of Meyer's *Konversations-Lexikon* (Leipzig, Bibliographisches Institut) proceeds prosperously on its way. The thirteenth volume begins with the North Sea

(Noordzee) Canal, and reaches as far as "Politesse." An excellent plan of Nuremberg occurs early in the volume; and admirable geological and agricultural plans, as well as a territorial map and a series of historical maps, and a plate of "Länderwappen," illustrate the article on Austria. When would a London publisher think of introducing so many useful illustrations in an encyclopedia? Photography is also capitally elucidated, and the short articles on paleography and Palestine deserve praise; and there is a good sketch of the history of Poland, with maps illustrating the boundaries of that unfortunate kingdom before its unscrupulous neighbours parcelled it out among them. The little history of philology on pp. 850-52 is exceedingly well done. Conington has, we may remark, been turned into "Cunington," but that is a solitary misprint. The article "Pferd" is also a careful piece of work.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The title of *Alone in China, and other Stories* (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.), is a little puzzling. Mr. Julian Ralph travelled in China, but not alone, and it is impossible to find in the stories which he appends to his personal adventures any one so solitary as to answer the description on the title-page. But the nearest approach is probably the heroine of the first story. This lady was an American heiress who fell in love with a member of the Chinese Legation at Washington, and, in spite of her father's protests, insisted on marrying the wily Oriental. The story is not a pleasant one, and the author describes the bride as submitting to indignities which it is difficult to imagine any American lady would endure for a moment. On the voyage out she discovered that her husband was bringing with him a Frenchwoman as his second wife, and though holding aloof from this very inconvenient fellow traveller, she failed to make the protests which might have been expected of her. The same relations between the three were continued in China, and after many vicissitudes and one attempt to run away, the American wife settled down in her Chinese home, and became essentially Chinese. There is an unreality about the story which detracts from its interest, and it is humiliating even to be told of a Western lady submitting to form one of such a conglomerate household as that of Mr. Tieh. The first portion of the work contains an interesting and well-written account of the author's experiences in China. Together with Mr. Weldon he engaged a houseboat, and made a number of expeditions on the rivers of the central provinces. He was evidently determined to look on the bright side of everything in China; the scenery of the plains was in his eyes delightful, the villages were charming, the people good-natured and obliging, and the dinners cooked for him by his Chinese *chef* were equal to anything to be got at the *Trois Frères*. This is the spirit in which he took up his pen; but the stern realities interfered considerably with these roseate views. He found that the people everywhere "either frowned or grinned at" him, that the beggars were supreme in their impudence, that most people tried to cheat him, and that he was unable to believe a single word spoken by his attendant. But in spite of these inconsistencies, his account of his voyages is pleasantly written, and with the exception of some Transatlantic expressions, the literary style is all that could be desired. His description of Mr. Weldon, after having stumbled on a dead man, as going "about all the rest of the day with his entire complexion turned inside out," is neither graphic nor amusing; and the use of such a word as "brainiest" for *cleverest* is certainly not to be commended. The stories in the later part of the volume, more especially the fairy tales, are characteristic and well told, and the work throughout is admirably illustrated by Mr. Weldon.

*Wit, Wisdom, and Folly* (Digby, Long & Co.) has been sent to us in two bindings. The title of Mr. J. V. Marmery's volume had rather led us to expect some brilliant latter-day epigrams or another Nietzsche; but the author has merely collected a series of *ana*, many of which are good reading, and retold them with local colour (warranted to be wholesome) or a reflective background. This rather spoils their point, and gives the book the tone of 'The World of Moral and Religious Anecdote.'

*The Civilisation of our Day* (Sampson Low), edited by J. Samuelson, is a series of essays by "expert writers" on the great advances in culture of all sorts achieved by the nineteenth century. The subject is a very large one, and the present volume, although writers of undoubted authority contribute to it, suffers from compression of space. Some of the unsigned articles seem hardly up to the standard of expert knowledge; others of considerable interest scarcely cover the proposed subject; e.g., the essay entitled 'The Dawn of Reason in Religion' is chiefly occupied by the story of the publication of the Vedas and the Parliament of Religions at Chicago. The maps and statistics appended are striking.

MESSRS. KEGAN PAUL & Co. have published a new edition of *The Silence of Dean Mailland*, with illustrations by Mr. Hamilton Jackson. —Miss Edgeworth's *Belinda* has been added by Messrs. Macmillan to their "Illustrated Standard Novels." The brief introduction by Mrs. Thackeray Ritchie is pleasant reading, and Miss Chris Hammond's illustrations are excellent. —Messrs. Routledge have issued yet another volume of their edition of Marryat's novels, containing *The Pirate* and *The Three Cutters*. Mr. Courtney supplies a sensible introduction.

MESSRS. GIBBINGS & Co. have reissued *The Pilgrim's Progress*, with C. H. Bennett's illustrations. —Messrs. Chapman & Hall have certainly done a marvellous feat in publishing *The Pickwick Papers* and *Martin Chuzzlewit*, well bound in cloth, at a shilling each.

THAT excellent periodical the *Journal of Education* (Rice) has reached its eighteenth volume, and does Mr. Storr credit by the knowledge and good sense it displays.

MESSRS. MCCORQUODALE & Co. have sent us *The Railway Diary* for 1897.

WE have received the catalogues of Mr. Baker (ecclesiastical), Mr. Higham, and Mr. Hollings (good). We have also a catalogue from Mr. Downing and Mr. Thistlewood of Birmingham, Messrs. Bright of Bournemouth, Messrs. Deighton & Bell of Cambridge (good), two catalogues from Mr. Clay (general and chemical works) and one from Mr. Thin of Edinburgh, Mr. Milligan of Leeds, and Mr. Ward of Richmond (engravings and books, good). Mr. Rosenthal has sent us a catalogue of rare books from Munich, and Mr. Hoepli of Milan an elaborate book-catalogue of his publications.

WE have on our table *A Hero of the Dark Continent*, *Memoir of Rev. William Affleck Scott*, by W. H. Rankine (Blackwood), —*The Golden Readers*, Standard I. (Moffatt & Paige), —*Elementary Solid Geometry and Mensuration*, by H. D. Thompson (Macmillan), —*The X Ray, or Photography of the Invisible*, by W. J. Morton and E. W. Hammer (Simpkin), —*Auto-Cars*, by D. Farman, translated from the French by L. Serrailier (Whittaker), —*The Earth and its Story*, by A. Heilprin (Gay & Bird), —*Carriages without Horses Shall Go*, by A. R. Sennett (Whittaker), —*Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, New Series, Vol. X. (Longmans), —*A Text-Book of Nursing*, by C. S. Weeks-Shaw, edited by W. J. Radford (Arnold), —*The Crystal City under the Sea*, translated from the French of A. Laurie by L. A. Smith (Low), —*When Arnold Comes Home*, by Mary E. Mann (Henry), —*The Piebald Horse*, and other Stories, by A. Burrell (Fisher Unwin), —*Immensee*, from

the German of T. Storm (Glasgow, Gowans & Gray), —*The Haunted Manor House*, and other Tales, by Author of 'A Flight to Florida' (Skeffington), —*King for a Summer*, by E. Pickering (Hutchinson), —*Her Foreign Conquest*, by R. H. Savage (Routledge), —*A Crown of Gold*, by A. Hardy (Digby & Long), —*When Hearts are Young*, by Deas Cromarty (Bowden), —*The Pirate Junk*, by J. C. Hutcheson (F. V. White), —*The Farrell Dishonour*, or *Fabian's Folly*, by E. M. Pledge (Jarrold), —*The Children's Hour*, edited by May Bateman (Simpkin), —*Through their Spectacles*, by C. Lockhart-Gordon (Jarrold), —*The Luckiest Man in the World*, by Mary Albert (Simpkin), —*Daisies of the Dawn*, by L. Cranmer-Byng (Roxburghe Press), —*Margaret and Margarithes*, by C. S. Dickens (Low), —*The Perfect Whole*, by H. W. Dresser (Gay & Bird), —*Three Dialogues on Pulpit Eloquence*, by M. Fénelon, translated by the late S. J. Eales (Baker), —*Die Grabschrift des Aberkios erklärt*, by A. Dieterich (Leipzig, Teubner), —and *Histoire de la Littérature Italienne: les Premiers Siècles: Dante et ses Précurseurs*, by T. Zanardelli (Saint Gilles, Brussels, Dekonink). Among New Editions we have *Comedies of Courtship*, by Anthony Hope (Innes), —*The Adventures of Three Englishmen and Three Russians in South Africa*, by Jules Verne (Low), —*Fables and Fabulists, Ancient and Modern*, by T. Newbigging (Stock), —*The Tyrants of Kool-Sim*, by J. M. Cobban (Henry), —*The Castle Builders*, by C. M. Yonge (Innes), —*The Power of Silence*, by H. W. Dresser (Gay & Bird), —and *The Attitude of the Church to some of the Social Problems of Town Life*, by the Rev. W. Moore Ede (Cambridge, University Press).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Frere's (W. H.) *The Marian Reaction in its Relation to the English Clergy*, 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Mortimer's (Rev. A. G.) *Catholic Faith and Practice*, 7/6 cl.  
Sacramentarium Leonianum, edited, with Notes, by Rev. C. L. Feltoe, 8vo. 12/6 net.

## Law.

Annual County Courts Practice, edited by W. C. Smyly, 2 vols. 8vo. 25/ cl.

## Fine Art.

Brown's (C.) *The Horse in Art and Nature*, Part 2, 2/6 cl.  
Nude in Art, 45 Photographures, with Introduction by C. Lausing, folio, 84 net.  
South Kensington Museum Art Handbooks: *Ironwork*, Part 2, by J. S. Gardner, cr. 8vo. 3/ cl.  
Swannell's (M.) *Black-Board Drawing*, 4to. 3/6 swd.

## Poetry.

Arnold's (Matthew) *Poems*, selected by G. C. Macaulay, 2/6  
Austin's (A.) *The Conversion of Winckelmann*, and other Poems, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Smith's (F.) *A Chest of Violets*, and other Verses, 3/6 net.

## History and Biography.

Bewe's (W. A.) *Church Briefs, or Royal Warrants for Collections for Charitable Objects*, 8vo. 18/ net.  
Brathwaite, Martha, *Record of the Life of (Loving Service)*, by E. B. Emmott, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Curtis's (W.) *A Short History and Description of the Town of Alton*, 8vo. 6/ net.  
Fénelon's *Life, History of*, by A. M. Ramsay, trans. from French edition of 1723 by D. Cuthbertson, 12mo. 7/6 cl.  
Holm's (A.) *History of Greece*, Vol. 3, 8vo. 6/ net.  
Lang's (A.) *Pickle the Spy*, or the Incognito of Prince Charles, 8vo. 18/ cl.  
Larchey's (L.) *Narrative of Capt. Coignet, Soldier of the Empire*, trans. by Mrs. M. Carey, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Roberts's (Field-Marshal Lord) *Forty-one Years in India*, 2 vols. 8vo. 38/ cl.  
Soldene's (E.) *My Theatrical and Musical Recollections*, 10/6  
Thacker's (A.) *Narrative of my Experience as a Volunteer Nurse in the Franco-German War*, 8vo. 3/6 cl.

## Geography and Travel.

Historical Atlas of Modern Europe, Part 3, folio, 3/6 net.

## Science.

O'Donoghue's (T. A.) *Colliery Surveying, a Primer for Use of Students*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Perkin (W. H.) and Lean's (B.) *Introduction to the Study of Chemistry*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Scholey's (H.) *Electric Tramways and Railways Popularly Explained*, 8vo. 2/ swd.  
Seyfferth's (A.) *The Sheep, its External and Internal Organization*, 4to. 3/6 bds.

## Philology.

Cambridge Milton for Schools: *Paradise Lost*, Books 9-10, with Introduction, &c., by A. W. Verity, 12mo. 2/ cl.  
Lessing's *Minna von Barnhelm*, edited by Rev. C. Meek, 2/6  
Malors's *Le Mort d'Arthur*, Selections from, edited by A. T. Martin, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

## General Literature.

Cross's (M. B.) *Blind Bats*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Devlin's (T. G.) *Municipal Reform in the United States*, 3/6  
Emerson's (P. H.) *Caña, the Guerrilla Chief, a Real Romance of the Cuban Rebellion*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Harland (M.) and Herrick's (C. T.) *The National Cook Book*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Mortimer's (W. D.) *Juvenile Offenders*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
(Criminology Series.)  
Mortimer's (Mrs.) *Object Lesson Notes for Infants and the Lower Standards*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Peel's (Sir R.) *A Bit of a Fool*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Roy's (K.) *Tales of an Engineer, being Facts and Fancies of Railway Life*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Sizer's (K. T.) *Allys of Lutterworth*, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.  
Smith's (E. B.) *My Village*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

## FOREIGN.

## Drama.

Meilhac (H.): *Ma Cousine*, 2fr.

## History and Biography.

Journal du Maréchal de Castellane, Vol. 5, 1853-62, 7fr. 50.  
Liwoff (G.): *Michel Katkoff et son Époque*, 3fr. 50.

## General Literature.

Content (V.): *Une Spoliation*, 3fr. 50.  
France (A.): *Discours de Réception*, 1fr.; *L'Orme du Mail*, 3fr. 50.  
Noë (M.): *L'Assaut*, 3fr. 50.

## INDIAN PROBLEMS.

Ashcroft, Petersfield, Dec. 28, 1896.

WILL you allow me to point out that in your review of my third Indian problem 'Backwards or Forwards?' you misstate my views with regard to India's real scientific frontier? The three problems must be taken as a whole, and in the first I have laid down a plan for the defence of the North-West Frontier which includes all the places which you accuse me of wishing to abandon.

I must also ask leave to support my opinion that Russia would not dare to weaken her hold on the Caucasus in time of war, in opposition to your view that that province must be regarded as a bulwark of her empire, by reminding you that, in consequence of its disturbed state, its garrison has quite recently been increased by over 18,000 men.

Neither can I be shaken in my belief that Tiflis is the natural base of an expedition having India for its object by your remark that it would have the Caspian between it and India, for this is equally true of Astrakhan at the mouth of the Volga, where troops and stores would have to be transhipped into sea-going vessels, the Volga itself being always closed in winter by ice. That the Caucasus has been the base of all expeditions into Transcaspia, and that the latter province is garrisoned from the former, is in itself a proof that the Caucasus is the true base for a force advancing through Transcaspia on Afghanistan and India.

Neither am I childishly ill-informed as to the recent increase in the military strength of Russia, and if I laid no stress upon it, that was because it has no bearing on the invasion of India, since so long as it is impossible to move and feed more than 30,000 or 40,000 men in Transcaspia or Afghanistan, it can be of no consequence to India whether the whole Russian army numbers one million or two million men; and until the climate and general character of those countries are transformed, that limit will remain unchanged and unchangeable. Had you consulted any military man of experience, he would have told you that if the Indian army had been doubled in 1878-80, the Government could not have put a larger force into Afghanistan than the 60,000 men which, for a short time, it succeeded in maintaining in that country, where Russia's difficulties in the matter of transport and supply would far exceed ours.

Finally, I must dissent in the strongest manner from your contention that "if our command of the sea is complete, the whole of the regular troops of the country could probably be employed to greater advantage in India than elsewhere." Do you really believe that the superiority of the British fleet to that of all antagonists could ever be rendered so pronounced, so raised above the influence of chance and change, that a British Government would dare to propose to a British Commander-in-Chief to trust entirely to the navy and the reserve forces for the security of these islands? If this be so, then the last word of the forward



policy has been spoken. I knew that there were men in India who contemplated locating the whole Indian army beyond the Indus, but I never dreamed that there were men at home who were anxious to transport the whole British army to India. The discovery, however, is not altogether unpleasant to me, since I cannot help hoping that this latest revelation of the lengths to which the supporters of the forward policy are prepared to carry it will help to open men's eyes to its inherent and dangerous folly.

H. B. HANNA, Colonel.

\* \* We fear that Col. Hanna is even more prehistoric in his opinions than we supposed; but we should have to repeat our long review in order to prove our case point by point, and even then he would not be convinced.

#### THE BOOK SALES OF 1896.

I.

THE usual method of ascertaining the presumed state of the book market at any period of time has, for some years past, been to compile statistics and strike a series of averages, and though this system is open to serious objection, it has, on the whole, a preponderance of convenience in its favour. That it is not wholly satisfactory becomes, however, clear enough when the principle is brought to its logical conclusion; for the real object in these cases should not be so much to ascertain the value in pounds, shillings, and pence of the books sold, as to estimate their intrinsic importance, and it unfortunately often happens that large and scholarly collections are sold for sums which tend to reduce the average rather than to increase it. For instance, let it be granted that the portion of the library of Mr. William Stuart dispersed on March 6th, 1895, shows the highest recorded average, which I believe to be the case; it must also be admitted that the 215 books, though they did sell for 4,297*l.*, or about 20*l.* per volume, were not as a whole of the same importance as, for example, those belonging to the Syston Park Library, where the average works out at about 14*l.*, or as those forming the Beckford Collection, where it reached less than 8*l.* The Stuart Sale was altogether exceptional in that four manuscripts realized 1,700*l.*, and six printed volumes more than 1,000*l.*, thus accounting for more than half the total sum obtained, and raising the average of the whole year to the extent of nearly two shillings. The result of the sales of 1896 also illustrates the unsoundness of the doctrine of averages in a remarkable manner. We find that during the year 47,268 lots of books yielded 80,111*l.* and some odd shillings, giving an altogether unusual average of 1*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, the figures for 1893 being 1*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*, for 1894 1*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, and for 1895 1*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* In 1895, as we have seen, a small sale increased the average on more than 47,000 lots by nearly two shillings, and in 1896 two volumes only raised it by as much as 1*s.* 2*d.* on about the same numerical basis. These volumes consisted of copies of the first edition of Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales,' which, though more or less imperfect in each instance, produced 2,900*l.*, thus utterly upsetting any calculation that can be made from the reports of the year's sales. Perhaps if a series of fifty years were taken and calculations made from the results obtained during that period the outcome might be more satisfactory, though even this may well be doubted, for some books are worth more at one time than another, and half a century will make or mar the reputation of all authors save the very few. I still hold to the old-fashioned belief that the author makes the book, and that, irrespective altogether of the nature of the contents, he and it together will be tried not by contemporary critics, whose praise or blame is worthless except for the hour, but by time. For this reason alone (and there are others) a lengthy

calculation is as unsatisfactory as a short one, and the only conclusion that can be arrived at is that it is just as possible to ascertain the present state of the book market by an appeal to past traditions as it is to prophesy what position it will hold in the future. Statistics are worth what any individual chooses or is able to make of them, and the tendency is to "argue round about," and to end in committing oneself to nothing except the approximate accuracy of the figures. These, as gathered from four years' records, are thus tabulated in the new volume of 'Book-Prices Current':—

	Lots of Books.	Realized.	Average.
1893 ...	49,671	66,470 <i>l.</i>	1 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i>
1894 ...	51,108	72,472 <i>l.</i>	1 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>
1895 ...	45,431	71,229 <i>l.</i>	1 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
1896 ...	47,268	80,111 <i>l.</i>	1 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>

The year 1896 was productive of sixty-one first-class sales. During the earlier months prices ruled low, and it was not until the opening of the season in October that they really recovered themselves, a circumstance very difficult to account for, since books seem to sell, as a rule, best in June and July. Another, and far more important fact, has reference to the marked change in fashion which many of these sales disclose. Some books are completely beyond the influence of this capricious mistress, but others are not, and it is melancholy to have to relate that early editions of the works of those comparatively modern authors who once appealed so successfully for popular favour are obviously in a decline. Dickens, Thackeray, Lever, Albert Smith, Jefferies, and the rest have ceased in a marked degree, not to interest, for they will always do that, but to excite competition. Should any work by one of these authors belong to the original or an early edition, and be in the finest possible state, then it will, as heretofore, command its full price; but the ordinary volume, good in its way, but not good enough to excite the interest of fastidious and rich collectors, has fallen on evil days. Now, perhaps, is the time to buy, for in any case books of this class must, from their very nature, eventually rise again. The "limited editions" of a number of contemporary poets and essayists, published to compete with those fashionable books which only a comparatively few collectors could afford to buy, are now ignored, and need not be considered. The favourite and ever-living books are still those time-tried classics of our own and other countries, past and present, which celebrated printers sent forth from presses that creak in their primitive way no more, yet did their work so well that comparison with some of our modern productions were odious in the extreme; literature, in all its branches, from the hands of masters living and dead; books of travel which opened up continents we have since inherited; books which describe the first gropings in the dark after great secrets, now as open as the day; works of artistic or antiquarian interest of acknowledged position; books of history compiled from documents and other sources of information, which are now either lost to us or could not be traced without extreme labour—all these classes of books and many others of the same high rank may certainly be thought even more of in the days to come than they are now, but can never be esteemed less.

The first sale of the year 1896 was held by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson on January 8th. It was not a particularly noticeable dispersion, and the prices realized were, on the whole, below the average. A complete set of Beavan's 'Reports of Cases in the Rolls Court,' 36 vols., 8vo., 1837-66, brought 20*l.* 10*s.*, and Dickens's 'Memoirs of Grimaldi,' first edition, 2 vols., 8vo., 1838, 3*l.* 4*s.* This is specially mentioned because it illustrates very fairly the fall that has taken place in the case of books of the kind. The copy was in the original cloth and clean, and the plate of 'The Last Song' had Crowquill's

pantomimic border. A couple of years ago it would have produced about 5*l.* 5*s.*, and might have sold for more. This shows a loss of about two-fifths of the value, which on other and abundant evidence I take to be about the extent of the injury inflicted by the recent change in fashion with regard to all books of this kind which have not something highly exceptional about them. On January 14th Messrs. Sotheby sold a few books belonging to the late Rev. T. R. O'Flaherty, among them Dr. Donne's 'LXXX. Sermons,' 1640, folio, which once belonged to Isaac Walton, and had his donative inscription on the title, "For my deserving and moste deare Ante Mrs. Susanna Cranmer from her dutifull and most affectionate nephew." This sold for 17*l.* On the same occasion Ben Jonson's 'The Masque of Queens,' 1609, 4to., brought 20*l.*, and Morley's 'Plaine and Easie Introduction to Practical Musick,' 1608, was sold with Douland's 'Andreas Ornithoparcus,' 1609, for 23*l.* 10*s.* Later in the same month 130 volumes of the Chetham Society's publications (first series complete, with index, 1844-86; new series, vols. i.-xv., 1883-88) brought 17*l.* 10*s.*; Dresser and Sharpe's 'Birds of Europe,' sixty parts (should be one hundred), 1871-77, 4to., 12*l.* 15*s.*; Dugdale's 'Warwickshire,' 2 vols., folio, 1730, 15*l.* 5*s.* (old calf); Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' 1667, 4to., first title-page, with the author's name in italic capitals, 90*l.*; Smith's 'Catalogue Raisonné,' 9 parts, 1829-42, 8vo., 20*l.* 15*s.*; and an imperfect copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, printed at Cambridge (Mass.) in 1685, 20*l.* Twenty copies of this work were published with a dedication to Charles II., and sent to England as presents. One of these, in its contemporary morocco binding with rough leaves, sold for 580*l.* on the dispersal of Lord Chancellor Hardwicke's library in June, 1888. The scarcity consists in the dedication, copies without it being comparatively common. One of these, in the original old calf binding, sold for 82*l.* on June 18th last, being the second and last that appeared in the sale-rooms during the year.

J. H. SLATER.

#### PROF. MASPERO'S 'STRUGGLE OF THE NATIONS.'

My attention has just been drawn to the letter of Verax in your issue of the 2nd inst. As the translator, Mrs. McClure, is at present in the south of France, may I be allowed, in her absence, to make a few remarks in answer to the charges of Verax?

1. I must say at the outset that the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had nothing whatever to do with the modification of Prof. Maspero's diction in the cases cited by Verax.

2. Mrs. McClure, who is alone responsible for the modification of the few words in the original, was throughout in communication with Prof. Maspero, without whose consent she did not venture to qualify any expression in the text.

3. The passages cited by Verax show the nature of these qualified expressions. The chief charge of Verax is that in the English translation "the narrative says" is substituted for "tradition related" of the original, or that "sacred writings" (a term used by Prof. Maspero himself elsewhere in the volume) is used for "tradition" pure and simple. A further point is the cast of doubt thrown upon the views of the higher critics by such words as "some critics think" or "endeavour to show." Reuss, Wellhausen, Stade, and Budde are not yet, even in the eyes of their most ardent admirers, infallible, and the qualification of their absolute statements by such words as "think" or "endeavour to show" is neither treason to them nor to Prof. Maspero who quotes them. At any rate, the translator had Prof. Maspero's permission to make these qualifications, which were so few and trifling that

the translator did not think it even necessary to mention them in the preface.

4. What then are we to think of Verax's rash assumption that Prof. Maspero's text has in certain passages been "surreptitiously tampered with" in the translation, or his charge of "literary bad faith" without knowing more about the circumstances? Is this assumption in keeping with an unprejudiced mind, and in harmony with the attitude of "the higher critic"?

EDMUND MCCLURE, Sec. S.P.C.K.

#### BYRON'S LETTERS.

Muswell Hill, Jan. 4, 1897.

PERMIT me to protest against some two or three inferences in your review of the first volume of that edition of Byron which I am preparing for Mr. Heinemann.

1. To begin with, there is "Mr. Henley's obvious hero-worship for Byron." But on what in this first volume does your reviewer ground his assumption that I "hero-worship" anybody? In Byron's case I have simply recalled and revived certain circumstances, forgotten or ignored, which tell in his favour. Your reviewer may call this "hero-worship." Would not it be better described as "common honesty"?

2. Again, my "Byron worship is somewhat of that curious strain which excludes not only Byron's enemies, but his opposites—as Shelley." How does your reviewer know? I have said no word in this first volume to show that my "Byron worship" (supposing it to exist) "excludes Shelley." When I come to deal with that master lyricist your reviewer may, or may not, have occasion to prefer his charge. Till then he is himself his sole authority; and his assurance, besides being distasteful to me, calculated to mislead the public.

3. Lastly, my quotation of Moore's pasquil against 'The Living Dog' from a copy in the handwriting of Mrs. Leigh has "tempted Mr. Henley into the inaccurate subheading 'Thomas Moore to Leigh Hunt.'" It has done nothing of the kind. The "inaccurate subheading" is Mrs. Leigh's, not mine. It seemed to me significant that this gentle, kindly, charitable lady should be at the pains, not only of transcribing so savage a piece of satire as this of Moore's, but also of adding a kind of commentary. And I thought to interest readers by printing it as it left her hand.

W. E. HENLEY.

\* \* "Hero-worship" expresses our meaning more accurately than "common honesty" would have done; indeed, the latter term would not have been apposite; but we are sorry our choice of terms is distasteful to Mr. Henley. Shelley we shall be delighted to see dealt with in some future brilliant vignette. Of course the inaccurate subheading is Mrs. Leigh's, and we thought that its caustic quality tempted Mr. Henley to use it, inaccuracy and all. It seems that was the case; and we still think he was hardly well advised.

#### MR. ROBERT HARRISON.

WE regret to announce the death on Monday, the 4th inst., of Mr. Robert Harrison, late Secretary and Librarian of the London Library. Mr. Harrison was born in Liverpool, November 26th, 1820. His father, William Harrison, was a member of a good Lancashire family, and his mother a water-colour painter of repute. She was an original member of the New Water-Colour Society (now the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours), and two of his brothers were followers of the same art.

He began life as an assistant to the late Mr. Newman, the well-known parliamentary bookseller of High Holborn. He then settled for a time in Russia, where he acted as tutor in Prince Demidoff's family and as a lecturer in the St. Anne's School at St. Petersburg. There, in 1846, he married his wife, who survives him, and who went out from England to him. When

the Crimean War broke out he returned to this country, and in 1855 he published 'Notes of a Nine Years' Residence in Russia, 1844 to 1853.' He was for a short time Librarian of the Leeds Library, and was appointed in 1857 Secretary and Librarian of the London Library, in succession to Mr. Bodham Donne, and here he remained until his resignation in 1893.

One of the effects of the Crimean War was to injure institutions subscription to which was considered as a luxury, and the London Library suffered among others. Mr. Harrison found it much crippled, but he left it prosperous. He had a liberal share of the many qualities that go to make a good librarian. He was always accessible, and, however busy, ready to attend to the inquiries of the members. To those who required it he showed pleasure in supplying help, which he was well able to do, as he possessed a wide knowledge of the contents of books, and an extensive acquaintance with several literatures. He was one of the founders of the Library Association, and its treasurer for ten years; he was a constant attendant at the meetings, which he helped to make a success by his genial temper and ready and agreeable speech. In 1891 he was elected President, and he presided at the Nottingham meeting.

He was a fairly strong man, but he suffered from gout, and his health was much broken when he retired from the office he had filled so long with honour to himself and advantage to the institution he served. Besides the work already noted he wrote with Mr. Joseph Gostwick 'Outlines of German Literature,' first published in 1873 (second edition, 1883). He edited Mackenzie's 'Dictionary of Universal Biography,' and assisted Capt. Hozier in his account of the Franco-Prussian War. Among much other literary work may be mentioned his contributions to the 'Dictionary of National Biography.'

His long service at the London Library brought him into constant association with most of the leading literary men of the last forty years, and his experiences would have furnished material for an interesting volume of reminiscences, which he always had in his mind to compile. When, however, the leisure came to him his strength was no longer equal to the task. His work was completed before he passed peacefully away, but his loss will long be felt by numerous friends, who will cherish his memory with feelings of affection and esteem.

#### THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

13, Cheniston Gardens.

YOUR last week's issue, which contained a very kindly notice of the *Transactions* of the Bibliographical Society, contained also, in another review, an allusion to the "absurdity" committed by the Society in limiting the number of its members. As I was mainly responsible for the resolution by which this step was taken, may I say two words in its defence? Every one familiar with the history of societies knows how greatly they suffer from the person of transient enthusiasm, who becomes a member only to retire at the end of a twelvemonth, thereby breaking into a set of publications, his odd volumes of which promptly figure in a dealer's catalogue at a price which does not enhance the Society's credit. The only safeguards against this nuisance are the imposition of a heavy entrance fee, which would exclude many highly desirable members along with the undesirable ones, or else the adoption of some such rule as our own, which makes readmission sufficiently difficult to cause members to hesitate before lightly resigning their privileges. The first effect of our notice, that bookmen must make up their minds whether they wished to join us or not, was nearly to double our numbers, and now that the roll of the Society is permanently fixed at 300, we have far fewer vacancies to fill at

the end of each year than when we had only 160 members. We have the further advantage of a fixed income, to which we can adjust the expenses of our publications, and our balance sheet, in consequence, is always satisfactory. To meet the case of any especially desirable candidate presenting himself when there is no vacancy, the Council is empowered to elect not more than 15 candidate-members, who have all the rights of membership except that of holding office. No effort is made to fill these vacancies, and one of them is therefore always available when needed. I think that a system which secures these results cannot reasonably be charged with "absurdity," but that, on the contrary, it is one which other societies might perhaps do well to consider.

ALFRED W. POLLARD, Hon. Sec.

#### Literary Gossip.

THE second volume of Mr. S. R. Gardiner's history of the Commonwealth and Protectorate is now in the press; it will bring the story down to the summer of 1654. Mr. Gardiner is also preparing for publication a monograph on 'Cromwell's Place in History,' giving the substance of six lectures delivered at Oxford as Ford's Lecturer, 1896.

THE Committee of the London Library propose to pay off the debentures of 12,500*l.* now due, and to carry into effect the scheme of reconstruction of the society's premises authorized by the general meetings held in 1895 and 1896. For this purpose they intend to issue debenture stock, bearing interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, and redeemable by annual drawings, commencing in the year 1899. Proposals to this effect will be submitted to the general meeting to be held on the afternoon of Thursday next.

MR. COVENTRY PATMORE died just six weeks ago—namely, on Thursday, the 26th of November. In illustration of the small interest which colonial society takes in contemporary literary annals, a correspondent sends us an extract from a private letter received last Monday from Cape Town:—

"I am very sorry to hear of Mr. Patmore's death. Your letter was the first intimation we received out here. The Agencies will cable if some moneyed Jew buys a house in Park Lane—but—phew!"

Yet one would have thought the death of him who wrote 'The Angel in the House' would have been telegraphed to the colonial capitals of the Empire.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. will publish immediately in this country a collection of the outdoor papers of Mr. John Burroughs, a writer who has a high reputation in the United States, entitled 'A Year in the Fields.' The essays are illustrated by twenty half-tone pictures by Mr. Clifton Johnson, who made several visits to Mr. Burroughs's home on the Hudson and to the home of his boyhood in the Catskills to obtain them.

THE Lord Mayor has consented to preside at the next anniversary dinner of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation, which has been fixed to take place on Tuesday, April 6th, at the Hôtel Métropole.

MR. GEORGE GISSING's new novel 'The Whirlpool' will be published in the spring by Messrs. Lawrence & Bullen.



THE Duke of Norfolk has given the wags a chance to bring out once more the well-worn joke about "men of letters" in the Post Office. In choosing from his staff the members of the British delegation to attend the Congress of the Universal Postal Union to be held next May at Washington, he has fixed upon three Post Office men who are in both senses "men of letters." These are Mr. Spencer Walpole, who, besides being Secretary of the Post Office, has a well-recognized place as an historian, biographer, and critic; Mr. Buxton Forman, Assistant Secretary and Controller of Packet Services, who has edited the works of Shelley and Keats in season and out of season; and Mr. A. B. Walkley, whose contributions to dramatic criticism are well known. It is no secret that there are many voluminous files of papers in the archives of the Post Office in which the student of the future may find his dry-as-dust task considerably lightened by the results of Mr. Walkley's application of his talents to some of the higher work connected with postal administration.

WITH reference to the statement recently made in a daily paper, that the offer of the Committee of the Gibbon Commemoration (1894) to defray the cost of a memorial tablet to the historian in the chapel of Magdalen College had been finally declined by the President and Fellows, we are authorized to state that the Committee have resolved to expend the subscriptions remaining in their hands by presenting to each of the subscribers a copy of the historian's 'Autobiography' (which will shortly be edited and published by Mr. John Murray) as a memento of the commemoration.

MR. A. H. KEANE writes:—

"In your notice of Mr. Theal's book on 'The Portuguese in South Africa' (*Athenæum*, December 26th, 1896) reference is made to the author's statement that Monomotapa is the name, not of a country, but of a paramount chief. Would you kindly allow me to point out that five years before the appearance of this work I was able to show, on documentary evidence, that 'Monomotapa' was not a principality, but a prince—not an empire, but an emperor, &c. (Monograph on 'The Portuguese in South Africa' in Mr. R. W. Murray's 'South Africa,' Stanford, 1891.)"

THE knighthood conferred on Dr. J. T. Gilbert has been well bestowed, as no one else among living antiquaries has done so much to elucidate the annals of Ireland from the Norman Conquest down to the Restoration. Among his contributions to historical research are his 'History of the City of Dublin,' in three volumes; his 'History of the Viceroy of Ireland, 1172-1509'; the 'Historical and Municipal Documents of Ireland, 1172-1320,' and 'National Manuscripts of Ireland,' 5 vols., large folio (coloured plates); his 'History of Affairs in Ireland, 1641-52,' six parts, 1879-81; and his 'History of the Irish Confederation and the War in Ireland, 1641-49.' Besides he has edited the chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey at Dublin and Dunbrody; the register of the Abbey of St. Thomas, Dublin; and the Calendar of Ancient Records of Dublin.

A DECLARATION identical in most or all respects with that which was signed by the Irish Roman Catholic laity, demanding the

establishment by the State of a new university on denominational lines, has been prepared for presentation to the Government. It is signed by about twelve peers, three judges of the High Court, seventy-two members of Parliament, and considerably more than a thousand others. We have already placed on record the signing of a similar memorial by the Roman Catholic bishops.

WE mentioned some time ago the notable increase of endowments at Cambridge during the previous twelve months. It seems that the University of Edinburgh was enriched in 1896 by gifts amounting to close upon 25,000*l.* The annual value of university scholarships, bursaries, and prizes is 15,630*l.*

AN appeal is made for a small fund in order to add to the buildings of the Walthamstow Grammar School, founded by Sir George Monoux.

MR. JACKSON, of Leeds, is preparing a volume of Sedbergh School songs collected by Mr. R. Ainslie, one of the masters of the school. The author illustrates it with sketches of the scenery of the district.

WE regret to hear of the death of Miss Blackwood, the clever daughter of "Old Ebony," who preserved for later generations the traditions of the days when Wilson and Lockhart were warring against the world in general, and the Edinburgh Whigs in particular.

THE decease is announced of Mr. Thomas Guille, the founder of the Guille Library at Guernsey.

WE have also to record the decease of the learned Count Mas-Latrie at an advanced age. He published his 'Chronique des Papes, des Conciles Généraux, et des Conciles de France' as long ago as 1837, and he brought out his valuable 'Trésor de Chronologie, d'Histoire, et de Géographie du Moyen-âge' as late as 1889. He wrote a history of Cyprus under the house of Lusignan; he published a continuation down to 1837 of Anquetil's history of France, a work on the treaties of peace between the Mohammedans of Northern Africa and Christian powers, &c.

## SCIENCE

Charles Pritchard, D.D., F.R.S., late Savilian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Oxford. Memoirs of his Life compiled by his Daughter. (Seeley & Co.)

PROF. PRITCHARD was a unique and many-sided man, and it is not remarkable that several pens have shared in the production of this memorial of his life and work. Only the last chapter of this memoir was written by Miss Ada Pritchard, though she is responsible for the arrangement of the rest, and the preface is from her own pen. In it she remarks that whilst the method adopted in the joint work has of necessity interfered somewhat with the chronological sequence of the chapters, it has this advantage, that each part of the life "has been dealt with by the writer best qualified to form a just estimate of it."

Into the details of the biography we do not propose to enter. The first chapter, containing reminiscences of Prof. Pritchard's

early life, was contributed by his niece, Mrs. Ward. The family, she tells us, had been settled for three generations in Shropshire; but the father of the late Professor removed to Brixton, where Charles (the subject of this notice, who was his youngest child) was born on February 28th, 1808. He lost his mother when only twelve years old, and after his eldest sister's marriage in 1822 his father returned to Shrewsbury and married a second time, surviving till 1859. Charles was left to the care of other relatives, and it was chiefly at the instance of his brother-in-law, Mr. Allan (Mrs. Ward's father), that means were found for sending him as a sizar to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1830 as Fourth Wrangler, and became Fellow of his College two years afterwards, having already been the author of a treatise on the theory of statical couples and of papers communicated to the Cambridge Philosophical Society. For a short time he was head master of a school at Stockwell, and for twenty-eight years of a newly founded grammar school at Clapham. Here he pursued astronomy as a paragon (to use his own favourite phrase), being elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1849; and after making various contributions to its *Proceedings*, and taking part in the Himalaya expedition sent to Spain for the purpose of observing there the total eclipse of July 18th, 1860, he was elected President of the Society in 1866, holding that office for the usual term of two years, and delivering very able addresses in presenting the Gold Medal to Dr. Huggins and to the late M. Le Verrier respectively. He was ordained when he first went to Clapham, and resigned his mastership there in 1862, for reasons not necessary to mention.

From that time he resided during eight years in retirement at Freshwater, in the Isle of Wight (where the present writer found him one summer's afternoon diligently assisting in harvesting a hay crop in his own field), from time to time taking part in Church Congresses and in meetings of the British Association (before which he repeatedly preached), being also appointed Hulsean Lecturer at Cambridge in 1867. But in 1870 he was elected to succeed Donkin as Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford. The energy with which, at the age of sixty-two, he threw himself into the work was admirable; the new observatory for the special cultivation of astronomical physics was founded under his eye, being greatly helped by the late Dr. De La Rue's presentation of instruments, and it was completed in 1875. His successor, Prof. Turner, gives in the work before us a most interesting and discriminating account of his labours there, which were chiefly in the departments of photometry and the application of photography to the determination of stellar parallax. In the former he invented a new instrument, called the wedge-photometer, with which he superintended the measurement of the relative brightnesses of 2,784 stars; and in order to determine as nearly as possible the true value of atmospheric absorption for formation of his scale, he undertook a journey to Egypt in 1883. For his photometric work and the catalogue formed from it (called 'Uranometria Nova Oxoniensis') the Royal Astronomical Society awarded him in 1885

their Gold Medal, uniting with it one to Prof. E. Pickering, of Harvard College, Mass., for similar researches conducted by a different method.

We have left little space to speak of Prof. Pritchard's theological work, which chiefly bore on the relations between science and Scripture. The portion of the present volume which relates to this subject is from the pen of the Bishop of Worcester (Dr. Perowne). Prof. Pritchard died on May 28th, 1893, and the composite memoir before us will be appreciated by many readers as giving an interesting account of a very remarkable personality.

#### SIR JOSEPH BANKS'S JOURNAL.

21, Cautley Avenue, Clapham Common, Dec. 26, 1896.

REFERRING to the review of Sir Joseph Banks's 'Journal' which appears in your issue of to-day's date (pp. 908-909), there are one or two points touched upon which may be deemed worthy of further elucidation. A comparison of the translation by M. de Fréville with the anonymous publication of Beckett & De Hondt shows that the French book was translated directly from that work, with a very few additional amplifications by the translator. The suggestion that it was the work of the clerk Richard Orton is probable; we find such errors as "Captain Cooke" for Lieut. Cook, Fuego is always misspelled "Feugo," details of the character of each anchorage are given, and the bearings also; but it is silent as to the death of the two negroes, Banks's servants, when absent from the vessel in Patagonia. The first person is used in describing the visits paid to the convent in Madeira, as though Cook were the narrator, when not even his name is correctly cited. Possibly some of these slips are due to the haste in issuing the work, of which the introduction is dated September 28th, 1771.

Poor as it was, Banks seems to have sent a copy to the Académie des Sciences, for in the *Journal des Sçavans*, Juin, 1772, pp. 344-351, we find an abstract of it, with a quotation from his accompanying letter: "C'est ainsi que M. Banks nous a donné un extrait sommaire de son dernier voyage, dont il espère que la relation paroîtra en 1773" (l. c., p. 350). Sir Joseph Banks was ready enough to spend money lavishly in acquiring material in any shape of natural history, but shrank from the drudgery of working out his results. He was content to amass stores for others to elaborate, but could not in his own person undertake the labour of reducing his observations to scientific order. In some departments he was admirably served. Solander, apart from his constitutional indolence and love for society, was an ideal naturalist, and his successor Dryander was even more remarkable for his concentration on matters connected with the vast and rich collections which it was the delight of his employer to bring together. B. DAYDON JACKSON.

Blackheath, Dec. 30, 1896.

In a notice of the 'Journal of Sir Joseph Banks' which is given in the *Athenæum* of the 26th inst., the writer says that he does not remember to have seen, in the many accounts of Cook's voyages, reference to the true origin of his first visit to the Society Islands, which he takes to be the publication of a 'Mémoire' by Lalande in 1764 on the forthcoming transit of Venus in 1769, pointing out the desirability of having it observed in the South Pacific Ocean. Now Prof. Hornsby contributed a much more elaborate paper to the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1765, which, according to Thomson in his 'History of the Royal Society,' was what led to the Society's application to the king to send out an expedition to the Pacific for observation of the transit. Hornsby does not refer to Lalande's 'Mémoire,' and it seems

unlikely that he had seen it; but at any rate his own paper, calculating the circumstances of the transit of 1769, is evidently quite original, and suggests various islands from which he thinks it might be observed. Of course this was before the voyage of Wallis in which he visited Tahiti and called it King George's Island; whether it was the same which had been discovered many years before by the Spanish navigator De Quiros must always remain uncertain. It seems to me then that Hornsby's paper, not Lalande's, was what first gave occasion to the discussion which led to the application resulting in Cook's voyage.

W. T. LYNN.

\*.\* We are pleased to find Mr. Daydon Jackson in agreement with our suggestion as to the origin of the first anonymous journal of the Endeavour's voyage. This publication, it may be remarked, is dedicated to the Lords of the Admiralty, to Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander; whilst on p. 2 one of the publishers, Mr. Beckett, states that he is convinced "it is the production of a gentleman and a scholar who made the voyage." Now Richard Orton was neither a gentleman nor a scholar, but we venture to adhere to our opinion that it was he who supplied the material—indeed, the use of the first person in certain portions of the narrative indicates direct appropriation of parts of Cook's official journal, which was actually transcribed by Orton as amanuensis of that commander. Whoever it was, it must have been some one who remained on board the Endeavour after Cook and Banks had landed at Deal on the 12th-13th July; for the anonymous writer states he landed on the 15th. Now there was one individual who must have been particularly interested, beyond all others, in obtaining the earliest possible information regarding Cook's expedition. This was Alexander Dalrymple. It is not impossible that this eminent geographer—who had so earnestly desired to command the expedition to discover a great southern continent—might have preconcerted an arrangement with some person on board the Endeavour to supply him with news of the discoveries accomplished by Cook in advance of the official publication. Dalrymple's jealousy of Cook and his animosity towards Dr. Hawkesworth are exemplified in his later publications. Mr. Jackson rightly conjectures that Banks sent a copy of this journal, when published, to the French Academy; and as M. de Fréville describes it, in his translation, as the journal of a "Voyage autour du monde, fait par MM. Banks et Solander," it may well be supposed that Dr. Solander prepared the abstract, notes, and emendations which subsequently appeared in the *Journal des Sçavans*. Altogether, it is a curious complication, which perhaps may be unravelled by further research.

Mr. Lynn's proposition can hardly be sustained by his arguments. For, indeed, it was even before the previous transit of 1761 that Lalande had prepared a geographical chart, on which he laid down the times of ingress and egress of the planet on the sun's disc, calculated for the most favourable places on the globe for observations to be made by Delisle's method. And, as Mr. Lynn rightly observes, although Tahiti had not been discovered, there was good reason for supposing there were lands—lands, if not a continent—in the South Pacific suitable for the purpose. A 'Mémoire' containing this chart was published in 1764, by which time, however, the French astronomer had already put himself in communication with sovereigns, ministers, and learned societies all over Europe, urging expeditions for carrying out these important observations for ascertaining the sun's parallax. In this same year Lalande came over to London to confer with Maskelyne—who, it will be remembered, was to succeed Bliss as Astronomer Royal the following year. Moreover, Lalande's intimate friend, Bougainville,

had ten years previously been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, so that we cannot doubt that when this society memorialized the British Government in 1768 Lalande's 'Mémoire' must have produced as great an effect and had as much weight with the authorities at the Admiralty as the paper of the Savilian Professor. However original Hornsby's elaborate memoir may have been, it seems incredible that the author can have been unaware of Lalande's publications, which had been circulated throughout Europe. However, apart from the above considerations, in our notice of Banks's 'Journal' we were actually led to trace the origin of the Endeavour's voyage by consulting M. de Fréville's introduction to his translation of the anonymous pamphlet purporting to be Dr. Solander's journal. We hope Mr. Lynn may be induced to unearth from the archives at Greenwich Observatory some records of Lalande's conferences with Maskelyne which may elucidate this interesting subject.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. London Institution, 5.—William Hogarth, Historian and Satirist; Mr. W. H. S. Aubrey.
- Surveyors' Institution, 8.—The Future Development of the Surveyors' Institution; Mr. H. Martin.
- Aristotelian, 8.—Symposium: 'In what Sense, if any, do Past and Future Time Exist?' The President, Messrs. S. H. Hodgson and G. E. Moore.
- Tues. Asiatic, 4.—The Story of Umm Haram, translated from the Original Turkish; Mr. C. D. Cobham.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—Lecture for Members; 'Superheated-Steam Engine Trials,' Prof. W. Ripper.
- Biblical Archaeology, 8.—Anniversary Meeting.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 7.—The Growth and Demolition of Mountains, Mr. C. T. Dent.
- Thurs. London Institution, 6.—The History of the Dance and its Music; Dr. F. J. Sawyer.
- Electrical Engineers, 8.—Inaugural Address of the President.
- Mathematical, 8.—Supplementary Note on 'Matrices,' Mr. J. Brill.
- Fri. Civil Engineers, 8.—"Monitor" Girders and Arches; Mr. W. Beer. (Students' Meeting.)

#### Science Gossip.

It is understood that Mr. H. Goss and Canon Fowler, who for the last eleven years have been joint secretaries of the Entomological Society, do not propose to seek re-election at the annual meeting of the Society on the 20th inst.

The Institution of Civil Engineers, which attained its seventy-ninth anniversary on the 2nd inst., consists, according to a list corrected to date, of 1,903 members, 3,833 associate members, 331 associates, 21 honorary members, and 884 students—together 6,972 of all classes, and representing an increase during the past year of nearly 3 per cent.

The French papers say that the widow of Baron Hirsch is going to present two millions of francs to the Pasteur Institute, and is consulting the managers as to the allotment of the funds.

The death is announced of General Walker, the American statistician and writer on finance.

M. NOBEL's bequest of his whole property for the promotion of science is magnificent, but it may be doubted whether there are not already enough prizes in the scientific world, and whether research would not have been more effectually aided by a different application of the money.

By the death of Louis Vivien de Saint-Martin, France has lost the oldest and in some respects the most distinguished of her geographers. Born at St. Martin-de-Fontenay, Calvados, on May 22nd, 1802, young Vivien first went to Paris in 1814, and lived there or at Versailles up to the time of his death. He was not a great traveller like Ritter, still less an explorer, and won distinction solely as a savant and student. His first works were an elementary atlas and a georama (1826), the first globe of the kind seen in Paris. Since 1840 he devoted his attention solely to geographical subjects. For a period of fourteen years (1842-56) he edited the *Annales des Voyages*. In 1845 he commenced the publication of a 'Histoire Universelle des Découvertes Géographiques,' planned on a gigantic scale, of which only three volumes, dealing with Asia Minor, have ever seen the light. Many years of his life were



devoted to the study of the ancient geography of Asia and Northern Africa, his principal works dealing with this vast subject being 'Études sur la Géographie et les Populations Primitives du Nord-ouest de l'Inde d'après les Hymnes Védiques' (1860), 'Étude sur la Géographie Grecque et Latine de l'Inde' (1858-60), and 'Le Nord de l'Afrique dans l'Antiquité Grecque et Romaine' (1863). Between 1863 and 1875 he published 'L'Année Géographique,' a masterly survey of geographical progress. This useful work was carried on for a few years longer by M. Maunoir and M. Duveyrier, but has since been discontinued. His 'Histoire de Géographie' (1873) is a work of authority. In 1874 he planned a 'Nouveau Dictionnaire de Géographie Universelle,' and brought out the first volume, but allowed this monumental work to be completed by his friend Rousselet. His 'Atlas Universel de Géographie' in eighty-four maps, the first of which appeared in 1877, is being slowly completed by M. F. Schrader. At the time of his death he was engaged upon a 'Dictionnaire de Géographie Historique,' the MS. of which has been bequeathed by him to the Académie des Inscriptions. Vivien was one of the founders of the Paris Geographical Society (1822), and at the time of his death was one of its honorary presidents. He was a member of the Berlin Academy, an honorary fellow of numerous learned societies, and a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

A SMALL planet, probably to be reckoned as No. 426, was discovered by M. Charlois at Nice on the 28th ult.

THE editorship of the *Astronomical Journal* (which is henceforth to have the words "Founded by B. A. Gould" under the title on each number) has devolved upon Dr. S. C. Chandler, who has made many valuable contributions to its columns; at his own request Profs. Asaph Hall and Lewis Boss are to collaborate with him in it.

M. POINCARÉ has been appointed Professor of Mathematical Astronomy and Celestial Mechanics at Paris, in the room of the late M. Tisserand.

## FINE ARTS

### TWO PAMPHLETS.

*Notes on the Cross of Cong.* By M. Stokes. (Privately printed.)—The elaborate and delicate relic to which Miss Stokes has devoted this monograph is one of the finest works of its kind. It is the more interesting because it is dated 1123, that is, three years after the wreck of the Blanche Nef, and bears the sole record of the maker in his name, which, in full, was Maelis (Maeliesu) MacBratadair O'Echan, together with the names of Therdelbuech U Chonchobair (Turlough O'Connor), King of Erin, who employed that goldsmith, and Donnall Mac Flannacan U Dubthaig (O'Duffy), Bishop of Connaught, who "superintended its execution." Whatever the last phrase may mean, it is an awkward one for those who persist in thinking that to the mediæval workman, and to the workman alone, i. e., in this case O'Echan, is the credit due for what is nowadays so very oddly called "applied art." The cross itself is a singularly fine specimen of that late offshoot of the Romano-Byzantine school of decorative design which under various, but not very different forms, flourished in Ireland, England, and Scandinavia, and used to be called Hibernian. It is of the same epoch as the noble chalice of St. Remi and the analogous shrine of St. Patrick's Bell (which dates from 1100), and, though resembling them in style, it is more refined and elaborate. Like other similar works, it was made to contain a fragment of the True Cross, which, in the Chronicle of Inisfallen, is said to have been sent to Ireland in 1123, but more probably at a later date. It is of the Latin form. The shaft is 2 ft. 6 in. high; the

arms extend 1 ft. 6½ in.; the material of the body is oak. Encrusted with plates of gilt copper and brass, at the intersection is a circular crystal, like a lens, covering an orifice intended to contain the relic. Prof. MacCullagh observing that the fragment now under the lens is of oak, which the True Cross was not, doubted the genuineness of the existing fragment. Miss Stokes, as in duty bound, sees no reason for hesitation on this account, other fragments alleged to be genuine being of the same sort of wood. Besides the metal plates and crystal, the Cross of Cong is enriched with red and green stones cut *en cabochon*, and, in the Romano-Byzantine manner, set as studs, so as to protect the fine interlaced filigree gold work, which is fastened by rivets to the copper plates beneath. The studs were originally eighteen in number, arranged at regular intervals along the edges, and on the face of the shaft and arms of the cross spaces remain for nine others, which were placed at intervals down the centre. The filigree work is so exceptionally well designed and choicely executed as to excite the wonder of all who have studied it. On this point we should like to call attention to a circumstance which has never, so far as we know, been mentioned in connexion with Irish, Anglo-Saxon, or Scandinavian filigree work, and which may serve to mitigate the wonder of amateurs. We refer to the manifest fact that in countries where *cloisonnés* enamels were designed and made, the elaboration of filigree work would of necessity come naturally to those who were accustomed to design and execute *cloisonnés* enamels, as many were in Western Europe. What is filigree work but extremely intricate *cloisonné* work without its enamels? Miss Stokes rightly says that the reliquary which may with most profit be compared with the Cross of Cong is the Anglo-Saxon cross in the treasury of the church of SS. Gudele et Michel at Brussels, which is also believed to have been made to contain a fragment of the True Cross. The custom of shaping reliquaries in accordance with the relics they were to contain is observable in innumerable cases before monstrosities came into use. Several instances of alleged fragments of the True Cross being enshrined in cruciform cases are mentioned by Miss Stokes; but all shrines of this sort were not cruciform. Zoomorphic types occur in the interlacings of the filigree in the Cross of Cong; these and the other details of Maelis O'Echan's masterpiece are well shown in the plates before us.

We are indebted to Mr. R. Inwards for a copy of his contribution to the *Quarterly Journal of the Meteorological Society*, No. 98, April, 1896, which, with two diagrams, deals with *Turner's Representations of Lightning*. To explain them we cannot do better than quote the opening passages, which the diagrams (1) of 'Turner's Lightning,' as represented in his picture of the 'Bass Rock,' and (2) of a 'Photograph of Lightning,' as taken instantaneously from nature, distinctly affirm. Mr. Inwards writes:—

"The truth to nature of Turner's representations of lightning has been several times mentioned before the Society, but I thought it would be interesting to bring before the Fellows an actual example of Turner's work, placed side by side with a photograph of a real flash of lightning, presenting the same general character, and perhaps coming under the head of meandering lightning; at all events, it is a flash of that kind which seems to attempt to double back upon itself, and which makes many sudden turns before getting finally on its earthward course. Collated with this view is a photograph from the Society's collection, and which, of course, was taken direct from nature. It will be seen that Turner has caught the general form and character of the rapid contortions and abrupt curves of the lightning with a most amazing fidelity, and he has even drawn the flash in several places by a doubled line, just as we often see in photographs from nature. In fact, there is a doubled part in the photograph. If the picture had been by any one but Turner I should have put this down to a mere careless stroke of the brush, but being

from the hand of so consummate a master, I can have no doubt that his keen eye saw the effect, which his swift hand almost as quickly committed to paper."

And Mr. Inwards concludes his observations on additional instances, all equally interesting and conclusive, as follows: "One is inclined to take literally the eulogium passed by John Ruskin on this great master: 'Unfathomable in knowledge, solitary in power.....sent as a prophet to reveal to men the mysteries of the universe.'"

### THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—WINTER EXHIBITION.

#### LORD LEIGHTON'S PICTURES.

(First Notice.)

FROM this collection of more than two hundred works in oil none of the most important of the late President's pictures that are removable from the walls they decorate is absent, with the exception of the beautiful 'Wedded,' the gaily coloured 'Odalisque,' 'Jezebel and Ahab,' 'Clytemnestra watching for the Return of Agamemnon,' 'Phryne at Eleusis,' and 'Antigone.' A large number, too, of his drawings and designs made to illustrate 'Romola' and other books, very many exercises in pencil and silver-point—some of them most exquisite—and a few models in the round and relief are included in a comprehensive gathering which more than adequately represents the astonishing industry and skill of one of the most distinguished artists England has produced in this century. In presence of such an exhibition the student will be more than ever impressed by Leighton's ample endowment of the indomitable "power of taking pains" which is said to characterize the great masters of every art and science. The collection is more truly representative of the rise and progress of the painter than any that has been seen before, inasmuch as it includes works not till now seen in London, the most interesting being *Cimabue finding Giotto in the Fields of Florence* (No. 177), which was the first work he finished, and which was shown at Brussels in 1850. It is an astonishing fact that the works Leighton exhibited in London amounted to 255. Nevertheless, his total output, studies of importance included, far exceeds this number, while some of the most ambitious, such as the lunettes at South Kensington and the fresco at Lyndhurst, are not reckoned in the total we have named.

All the world knows that Leighton's reputation was established by *Cimabue's 'Madonna'* carried through Florence, which, as No. 65, occupies a leading position in Gallery III., and is a loan from the Queen. This work is the only purchase, we believe, Her Majesty ever made of the first contribution sent by a young and, until then, unknown artist to a public exhibition. It took the art world by storm in 1855, and has since then more than maintained its reputation, and more than justified the Queen's judgment. It clearly indicated that, given health and years enough, its author would achieve a conspicuous position among the painters of the century. Great as was the distinction won by him at the Academy he was afterwards to head, there came a cold shadow over his fortunes when 'The Triumph of Music' (not 'Orpheus and Eurydice,' which, as No. 61, illustrates Browning in Gallery III.) followed 'Cimabue' in 1856, and, greatly to the chagrin of the artist, was condemned by some of the critics of the day. Much nonsense was written about that unlucky work, which we remember quite well, and which deserved respectful treatment, even if it did not merit the admiration awarded to its forerunner. 'The Triumph of Music' is not here.

It is a noteworthy fact in Leighton's history that, while most men of his calibre and energy secure no small part of their reputation by the time they are of age, he was more than twenty-five years old when 'Cimabue' proved beyond mistake that he had attained a very high

degree of technical skill before the general public knew anything about him. It is owing to this unusual circumstance that we have no experimental paintings here to comment upon, nor, for that matter, any considerable development, nor any distinctly important change in his methods and style to record. And when once what may be called the tentative, but not immature group of Leighton's works is disposed of, the rest of his paintings stand nearly on the same level. They differ, of course, in the happiness of their inspiration, in physical and technical beauty, in the splendour of their lighting, and the charm of coloration, which none strove more ardently than he to secure; but, except in degree, the characteristic qualities of *Michael Angelo nursing his Dying Servant* (2) and *The Star of Bethlehem* (28), both of which belong to 1862, are much the same as those of *Flaming June* (75) of 1895 and *Clytie* (60), which, left hardly finished in 1896, is practically the last work Leighton touched.

Accordingly we intend to begin by calling attention to the tentative works, and afterwards proceed to say something about the best of the other pictures in the order they occupy on the walls of the Academy. *Cimabue finding Giotto* (177) needs no further comment than that it bears testimony to the industry and success of the studies of the youthful Leighton in Rome, Berlin, Frankfurt, and Paris. The names of the schools he frequented are enough to convince us that nothing but eclecticism could result from training so multifarious and models so dissimilar. In fact, the wonder is that anything like original genius survived so much teaching, and splendid as the results of his schooling were, there cannot be a doubt that it would have been much better for him if he had had a good deal less education. No. 177 exhibits his inborn sense of colour. His training had given him a profound knowledge of form, and that strong scientific feeling of which he had so much ensured a logical attention to the veracities of light and shade; while his liking for an artistic anecdote made the designing of such a theme as that he selected for No. 177 very easy to him. *A Persian Pedlar* (182) shows the colourist at work, and the man of taste diligently studying those harmonies of line which the draperies and posture of the figure and the masses of its accessories permit. Its date is 1852.

*Cimabue's 'Madonna' carried through Florence* (65) was finished in 1855 (it was the outcome of long previous labour), and sent to the Academy, with results of which we have already spoken. It at present faces *Daphnephoria* (81), finished just twenty-one years later, which marked the culminating point of his art. These works show plainly how Leighton delighted in painting processions. The continuity of flowing lines, the repetitions of similar elements, and the abundant opportunities for introducing graceful attitudes among figures actuated by a common motive, to say nothing of the stateliness appertaining to such subjects, had a singular fascination for him. As a designer of compositions of this nature, not even Sir John Gilbert—who loves a procession, especially when it involves rapid movements and furious gestures—has excelled Leighton when he had to deal with regular and gradual movements, more particularly if they were accompanied and directed by music. Owing to this, 'Cimabue' and 'Daphnephoria' were subjects after his own heart, and he threw himself into the painting of them without the least regard to the rewards of the future, for he knew that few could buy or house the latter, and it is understood he got much less than 500*l.* for the former picture. No doubt, too, the enthusiasm of Leighton, always a genuine lover of his art, was fed and heightened by the idea that in some such picture as this he might worthily illustrate an event so momentous in the history of painting as the carrying of the great

'Madonna' from the *boteqa* of Cimabue to the church which it was destined to adorn. He was perfectly aware that since the fall of Rome no such honour had been vouchsafed to art or an artist.

There is a certain local disconnexion, not to say harshness, in the coloration, lights, and shadows of this noble work, and even the figures or parts of the groups to which they belong, and the groups themselves are to some extent isolated (a defect Leighton avoided in later works), but they are on the other hand remarkable for the softness, breadth, and fusion of their detail. This softening was carried so far that many who objected to the artist's methods founded their complaints upon it, and compared the carnations of his figures to the paintings on plum-boxes. The carnations of nearly all the figures in 'Cimabue' are, besides, rather opaque, the roses in their cheeks are reddish and spotty, while in the flesh generally there is an excess of yellow and a lack of greyness. The local colours, too, are "cut up" to some extent, even more, perhaps, than the artist's desire to represent the brightness of Florentine daylight warranted. The chiaroscuro not less than the coloration and general treatment of this picture go far to prove that Leighton, before he painted it, had saturated his mind with the study of the frescoes which were daily before him in Tuscany and Rome. If we want to be sure of this we need only observe how brilliant is the tonality of the picture, how light is its background of architecture and draperies, and how distinctly all the figures stand upon that background. It is a striking merit in his picture that the figures really seem to move rhythmically to the music, and this is one of many proofs of his profound sympathy with his subject, and with the manner in which one of the quattrocentisti would have attempted this momentous theme if he had enjoyed those technical facilities later centuries gave to Leighton. Besides, the air of constraint which characterizes all the figures in 'Cimabue' is yet another symptom of the influence of early Florentine design upon its artist in 1854-5. The composition, like the composition of the early fifteenth century, resembles that of a bas-relief, and is without the vigour Signorelli introduced, while it is quite in harmony with this sculpture-like effect that the draperies, ornaments, and even some of the attitudes of their wearers remind us of the style of Ghiberti, as developed in the later gates of the Baptistery, not the earlier ones which recall the stiffness of Masolino. Indeed, if Leighton had had constantly before him a picture by Pesellino, he could not have approached more closely the middle Florentine manner of designing and painting draperies. Finally, let us say of 'Cimabue' that its draughtsmanship evinces the painter's close study of form, and the mastery he had already attained in the use of the brush. That he was an eclectic by nature not less than by what were really cosmopolitan studies is obvious to those who carefully examine this masterpiece of his youth, and, as at present, have before them the outcome of his life's work.

*Salome, the Daughter of Herodias* (12), which in chronological order is the next picture here, clearly shows that while working upon it Leighton had to a large extent freed his style from the trammels that timidity rather than lack of skill imposed upon him in 'Cimabue.' In 'Salome' and in *The Mermaid* (26), which followed it, the movements, expressions, and draperies, not less than the painting of the carnations, are more lifelike than before, the tonality is at once richer and more massive. In these respects the influence of Venice as well as the technical development of the artist himself are plainly perceptible. There is a good deal of Titianesque handling in the flesh of the mermaid, and her exuberant forms would have been distasteful to Leighton when he was at work on 'Cimabue.' Similar qualities, but a very distinctly inferior

coloration, were to be found in 'The Triumph of Music' and the 'Paolo and Francesca' which Leighton produced at this epoch. The passionate grace of the mermaid before us indicates the growth of freedom and voluptuous feeling in the painter's mind. The breadth, strength, and richness, for example, in the blue draperies which is an important part of the scheme of the colour, far surpass what seemed possible in the Leighton of earlier years. As the lightness of No. 65 has much of the brilliance of Florentine frescoes and temperas, so the limpid depth and lucent gloom of 'The Mermaid' belong to Venice, and to Venice alone. Anything like over-definition had vanished from Leighton's art by the time this picture was painted.

Count Paris, coming to the house of the Capulets, and finding Juliet apparently dead (62), although a somewhat later work, does not mark so much progress as 'The Mermaid.' Representing a theatrical performance, it is infected with some of the vices of theatrical representation; there is a good deal of exaggeration in the attitudes, the expressions (especially those of Count Paris and his friend, a male model to the life) are crude, and the influence of the lamp degrades the chiaroscuro and the light and shade of a picture, the painting proper of which deserved great praise. The breadth and massiveness of touch, which are its best points, are also seen to advantage in a half-length figure of a *Roman Lady* (59), painted in 1859, which is really a masculine and solid portrait-study of a magnificent Roman model. Originally it was exhibited as a study and called 'La Nanna.' That opacity of the carnations which has offended many in Leighton's later work is almost as marked in this model's face as in the somewhat affected portrait of Mrs. R. Orr (24) painted in 1861. On the other hand, the bonnet and pose of her head are distinct evidence of Leighton's dainty taste. 1863 witnessed the painting of *Michael Angelo nursing his Dying Servant* (2), by no means a happy nor a spontaneous picture, of which the moribund Urbino is the least good part. It exhibits the defects of No. 24 in technique and sentiment, but hardly any of its better qualities. *The Star of Bethlehem* (28), 1862, may be grouped with No. 2. Together they affirm a period when Leighton was occupied upon some important task, or was otherwise engaged than in painting. This stationary period continued, as it seems to us, until 1864, when *Orpheus and Eurydice* (61) indicated the beginning of a stronger style. The "fragment" of verse which Browning wrote to accompany the title of the picture in the Catalogue shows how the poet had been interested by the passion of the group. The face of Eurydice fascinated him as it does us, but that of Orpheus is less attractive, while the painting—vigorous and solid as it is—lacks much the artist was soon to gain.

#### PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

A PROTEST against the need's pulling down of the west front has received a great many signatures, and as to it a quaint story reaches us from Peterborough. It is said that a visitor, talking to one of the officials there, asked whether a protest bearing so many well-known names was not entitled to some consideration, and received for answer that it really was of very little consequence, for in all the list there was the name of only one subscriber to the restoration fund. This is a very pretty echo of the Dean and Chapter's own answer to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings early in the controversy, that the Society, not being subscribers to the work, had no claim to be heard about it.

The Society of Antiquaries came forward with a thousand pounds in their hands, but made conditions as to the way in which it was to be spent; and they, too, are refused a hearing. Who then will be listened to? Apparently, they who will



WE have on our table *The Lute of Apollo*, an essay on music, by Clifford Harrison (Innes & Co.); Part I. of the *Plainsong of the Mass*, adapted from the Sarum Gradual (published for the Plainsong and Medieval Music Society), and containing the principal numbers of the Mass in the Gregorian notation and the four-line staff; and *Le Cycle Berlioz*, the first volume of a series of monographs upon the work of the gifted if eccentric French composer, by J. G. Prod'homme (Paris, Bibliothèque de l'Association). The last is an essay on 'La Damnation de Faust,' interesting and instructive, though it may not be possible to agree invariably with the author's opinions.

## Musical Gossip.

THE Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts will be resumed on February 27th and will conclude on April 17th, Mr. August Manns's benefit concert being fixed for the following Saturday. Among the features of the second division of the series will be the interesting Schubert programme on February 27th, the appearance of Herr Joachim on March 13th and M. Paderewski on the following Saturday, and the performance of Gounod's 'Redemption' on March 27th and Mr. Edward Elgar's 'King Olaf' on April 3rd.

THE Incorporated Society of Musicians virtually concluded its semi-public proceedings at the Cardiff Conference last week on Thursday. Dr. C. Vincent read a paper on the advantages of sight-singing from the staff, with an appeal to musicians to use the movable Doh system in combination therewith. In the afternoon Mrs. Roedel addressed the meeting on "some of the advantages of membership" of the association, proving her case eloquently and without difficulty. The Conference was one of the most successful held by the Society, which, it is pleasant to say, is doing much service in the interests of professional and amateur musicians.

Two new overtures from the pen of Mr. Herbert Bunting will be heard in London during the spring. A 'Dramatic Overture' will be introduced at Mr. Manns's benefit concert at the Crystal Palace, and the other, entitled 'Spring and Youth,' will be performed at one of the Philharmonic Concerts.

CONCERTS were few and unimportant last week until New Year's Day. The afternoon performance of 'Elijah' by the Queen's Hall Choral Society was very largely attended, and in some respects artistically successful. Miss Ella Russell was scarcely at her best in the soprano airs, and Mr. Santley was obviously out of voice at first, but he improved with his work. Miss Ada Crossley made a very favourable impression as an advancing contralto oratorio singer, and Mr. Ben Davies was admirable in the principal tenor music. Mr. Randegger conducted with much spirit, but, we venture to think, took some of the choruses at excessive speed.

In the evening 'The Messiah' was given, as usual, by the Royal Choral Society in the Albert Hall. Miss Anna Williams, Miss Marian McKenzie, Mr. Ben Davies, and Mr. Watkin Mills were the principal vocalists, and Prof. Bridge conducted the curtailed version of Handel's oratorio in a commendable manner. It may be noted that in 'Israel in Egypt,' which is underlined for the 21st inst., the duet "The Lord is a man of war" will be given by two bass soloists, and not by the entire contingent of tenors and basses in the choir.

MESSRS. PLUNKET GREENE AND LEONARD BORWICK will give three song and pianoforte recitals at St. James's Hall on February 5th and 19th and March 5th, the first programme being devoted to the music of Schubert.

M. SAINT-SAËNS'S Biblical opera 'Samson et Dalila' seems to be coming rapidly into favour in oratorio form. It was given for the third time at Sir Charles Halle's Manchester Concerts on Wednesday last week, and, as already announced, it will be repeated by the Queen's Hall Choral Society on Saturday afternoon next.

DVOŘÁK's charming overture 'In der Natur' was performed for the first time in Edinburgh by the Scottish Orchestra at Messrs. Paterson's sixth orchestral concert on Monday last. The programme-book contained well-executed portraits of M. Sapellnikoff and Herr Goldmark.

WE believe that, for the first time since its institution, the Bristol Festival has yielded a profit. The accounts for the meeting held in October last show a balance on the right side of nearly 43l.—not a large sum, it is true, but it is better than a loss, and it is, of course, quite independent of the 142l. collected for the local charities.

THE recently formed Manchester Royal College of Music seems to be already in a prosperous condition. Last year 1,821l. was subscribed towards the funds of the institution, and the number of students rose to 161.

MR. FREDERICK LAMOND, who has recently won much favour as a pianist in Warsaw and Moscow, will give the first of a series of recitals at St. James's Hall on January 19th.

THE new opera 'Messidor,' by MM. Zola and Bruneau, is now in rehearsal at the Paris Opéra, and will probably be produced early in February.

THERE seems to be irrefragable evidence that Beethoven's great Mass in D was first performed not in Vienna, but by the members of the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Society on March 24th, 1824. The Vienna performance took place six weeks later.

THREE cycles of 'Der Ring des Nibelungen' were given last month at Berlin in response to the Kaiser's command, and the Hoftheater was crowded on every evening. The Bayreuth traditions were observed as nearly as possible, and among the artists were Frau Sucher, Madame Gulbranson, Herr Grüning, Herr Vogl, and Herr Lieban. Herr Weingartner is said to have conducted the performances with the utmost skill.

ISEN'S unpleasant play 'Rosmersholm' has inspired a young German composer, Herr Gustav Brecher, to write a symphonic poem, which was recently produced at a concert of the Liszt Verein at Leipzig, it is said with much success.

## PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Orchestral Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
TUE.	National Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
—	Queen's Hall String Quartet Concert, 7.30, Queen's Small Hall.
MON.	Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
WED.	London Hall Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
THUR.	Mr. Henschel's Symphony Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
FRI.	Madame Antoinette Sterling's Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
—	Queen's Hall Choral Society, 'Samson and Delilah,' 3.
—	Orchestral Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
—	Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.

## DRAMA

## Dramatic Gossip.

'A MAN ABOUT TOWN,' a musical farce, produced on Saturday last at the Avenue, was punningly announced as by Huan Mee. Trivial almost beyond precedent is this piece, which the spirited acting of Miss May Edouin and the dancing of Miss Alice Lethbridge failed to commend.

'A PIERROT'S LIFE,' a play without words, after the fashion of 'L'Enfant Prodigue,' was given on Friday afternoon at the Prince of Wales's by a French company. It is curious to notice that while Pierrot, long popular in France, has obtained from the designs of M. Willette further recognition, and is now treated sentimentally, the character in England remains practically unknown outside the masked ball.

A NEW play by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy will be the next dramatic novelty at the Garrick. Its performance will, however, be preceded by three weeks of Carl Rosa opera.

THE title of the piece with which the Strand Theatre (now closed) will reopen, under the management of Mr. John S. Clarke, is to be 'A Prodigal Father,' which is suggestive of 'Un Père Prodigue,' dramatized by Charles Mathews as 'My Awful Dad,' and produced at the Gaiety in September, 1875. Mr. Paulton and Miss May Palfrey, as well as Mr. Collette, will be in the cast. It is to be prefaced by a one-act piece entitled 'Home, Sweet Home,' in which Miss Florence Gerard (Mrs. Abbey) will reappear.

MR. W. G. WILLS'S adaptation of 'Esmond,' written for the Lyceum, has long been in existence, and has, we believe, been finished by Mr. Freeman Wills, his brother. It has not

yet been acted. Renderings of that not too tractable novel are now promised in both England and America. That to be given in England is by Mr. Edgar Pemberton, and is designed for Mr. Edward Compton.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has secured the rights of the adaptation by M. Armand d'Artois of Musset's 'Lorenzaccio,' in which Madame Bernhardt has been seen in Paris. The English version will be executed by Mr. Herman Merivale.

TO-NIGHT is to witness the long-promised production at the Shaftesbury of 'The Sorrows of Satan' as adapted by Messrs. Herbert Woodgate and Paul Berton, with Mr. Lewis Waller in what we suppose we must call the eponymous hero. It is a curious coincidence that just at the time when 'The Sign of the Cross' is disappearing from one part of Shaftesbury Avenue the latest transfiguration or metempsychosis of the Prince of Darkness should be given at another.

'THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE,' the scene of which is laid in the time of the American War of Independence, is the title of a new play by Mr. George Bernard Shaw, intended, it is to be supposed, for a West-End theatre.

MR. WILLIAM YOUNGE, known as an actor and a dramatist, died of pneumonia on Sunday last at Charing Cross Hospital. He wrote several small pieces, and played in various London theatres, being last seen at the Strand in 'Playing the Game,' a piece by himself. Mr. Arthur Flaxman.

MR. A. F. ROBBINS writes to point out that the run of 'Our Boys' was longer than that of 'Charley's Aunt,' which was noted a week or two ago as unparalleled.

WRITING in the *Fortnightly* on the 'Blight of the Drama,' Mr. William Archer denies that anything more than chance is responsible for the fact that the fair promise of little more than a year ago is unfulfilled. In the plays by serious dramatists which failed to please the public he finds reasons for want of success in the works themselves, or in the circumstances that attended their production, such as the sudden and perplexing withdrawal of 'Michael and his Lost Angel.' The triumph of the musical comedy he contemplates with equanimity, regarding it as transient, and finding in 'The Sign of the Cross' a far more depressing portent than in 'My Girl' and 'Monte Carlo.' To this we would only add that there is no evidence of change of taste on the part of the public. It is not the drama that 'My Girl,' 'The Circus Girl,' or any other girl supplanted. It is the burlesque, the *opéra-bouffe*, the extravaganza, which it replaces. The very oldest playgoer still recalls the sparkling entertainments of Planché, given at the Olympic or the Lyceum; the man in late middle life talks more frequently of Marie Wilton than of Phelps. Patty Oliver in the 'Black-Eyed Susan' burlesque and Lydia Thompson in 'Magic Toys' prepared the way for the Lettie Linds and other singers and dancers of to-day, of whom we claim no very close knowledge. Such reasons as exist for the decline of the serious drama spring rather from the class of subject treated than from the opposition of the musical comedy, which from the Gaiety, always its home, has put out its feelers and seized for a while on the Garrick, the Prince of Wales's, the Shaftesbury, and one or two other houses.

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